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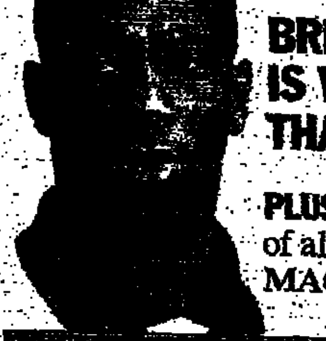

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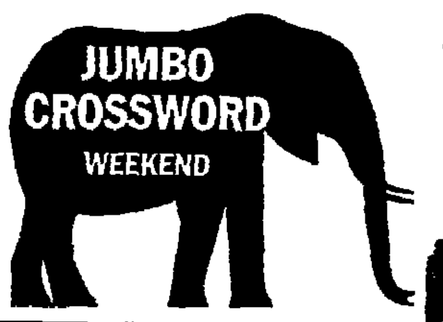

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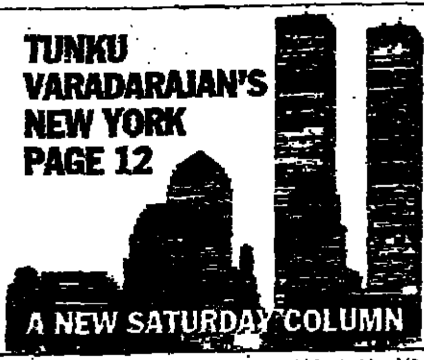

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IT'S A FAIR SWAP, MATE
LAGER

Now the cocky Aussies want to take the Ashes home

By Alan Lee
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

NOT satisfied with winning their fifth consecutive Ashes cricket series, the Australians want to flaunt their supremacy by taking the famous urn home. Having mumbled and grumbled for years that it is inequitable for the Ashes to stay permanently in England, they have decided to make the objection official.

Even as England fought back in the summer's final Test at the Oval yesterday — Philip Tufnell took seven wickets to lift home crowd spirits — the trophy commemorating a game on the ground more than a century ago was being discussed in Melbourne. An Australian Cricket Board meeting passed a unanimous motion to request the Ashes be released from Lord's — their home for the past 70 years. A letter is on its way to the MCC. It must be dealt with by the full MCC committee, not scheduled to meet until October 15.

The Australians would like their team to pack the urn when they travel home next week but last night Roger Knight, the MCC secretary, ruled that out. He also indicated that the Australians should not raise their hopes, saying it was highly unlikely that prize exhibit would be moved from the MCC museum.

There will be many who feel sympathy for the Australians' case and, having had 17 Ashes Test victories in the past ten years to England's three, Australia are in a mood to press their claim.

Many are the legends about the Ashes but no one doubts they can be traced to the Oval Test of August 1882. Australia won by seven runs — England's first home defeat — and a London journalist, Reginald Shirley Brooks, wrote an "obituary" in the *Sporting Times*, saying: "In affectionate remembrance of English cricket ... Deeply lamented by a large circle of sorrowing friends and acquaintances. RIP. NB. The body will be cremated and the Ashes taken to Australia."

Test report, page 50

New CJD strain threatens thousands

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

THE number of cases of CJD could run into thousands, scientists fear, after the disclosure that a woman who has been vegetarian for 11 years is suffering from the new strain of the disease.

If the condition of Clare Tompkins, 24, was caused by her eating BSE-infected beef she must have contracted the disease before 1986, the year in which the first case of BSE in cattle was confirmed.

If this proves to be anything like the typical incubation period, it would dash any lingering hopes that the relatively few cases of the disease represent the peak of the epidemic and would not rise further.

A study published earlier this year in the science journal *Nature* predicted between 156 and 213 cases with a ten-year incubation period, between 620 and 1,595 for a 15-year period; between 2,179 and 12,000 with a 20-year period and between 7,000 and 88,000 with a 25-year period. Infected cattle take five years on average to develop the disease.

Researchers will now also have to investigate whether meat may be infectious from cattle at an earlier stage of incubation of BSE than previously thought. If that is true many other people might have been infected by eating meat in the 1980s.

Another avenue for scientists to explore could be the possibility that milk and cheese might be a source of infection, but most scientists believe Miss Tomkins is most likely to have eaten beef infected with BSE, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, before she turned vegetarian.

John Pattison, professor of medical microbiology at University College, London, who chairs the committee which advises the Government on CJD, said: "It is an unusual case, because of the long history of vegetarianism, but I do not think it destroys our hypothesis that the most probable route for infection with the new strain of CJD is food containing contaminated beef."

Professor John Collinge, another member of the committee who heads the specialist CJD research unit at St Mary's Hospital, London, where Miss Tomkins' condition was diagnosed, said: "There is as yet no way of predicting whether Britain, and possibly Europe, will be confronted by, in medical terms, a very limited problem, or by a major epidemic."

To date there have been only 22 cases of the new strain of CJD, three in 1995, ten in 1996 and nine so far this year, including that of Miss Tomkins.

Vegetarianism and CJD, p 18

Father tells of fears

By Richard Duce

AS Clare Tompkins, 24, lies motionless in the bedroom of the detached house where she played as a child, her father constantly fields calls from journalists trying to establish how she became the latest victim of a new variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

Roger Tompkins, a company director, has no answers. His daughter, who has been brought home to die, was a vegetarian for 11 years, yet now is stricken with an illness linked to "mad cow" disease. What he does have is the fear that his daughter's awful and rapid descent from a bright and bubbly woman into a near comatose state could become a reality for others. Throughout an hour-long interview Mr Tompkins presses home his simple message: that parents and the medical profession should both be alerted to symptoms which in his daughter were diagnosed as acute depression for more than six months.

In October last year Miss Tompkins was looking forward to marriage to Andrew, her fiance of three years, and to her work as manager of a pet department at a local garden centre. Her love of animals drove her to give up eating meat when she was 13 and a proportion of her wages was sent monthly by direct debit to an animal charity.

Mr Tompkins, 51, who lives near Tonbridge, Kent, said: "Andrew noticed that she was becoming withdrawn and didn't want to go out anymore. Before that she was bubbly with a fantastic sense of humour."

Clare was prescribed antidepressants by her GP and diagnosed as suffering from acute anxiety. She was forced to stop work when it became clear her treatment was not working. By January this year Mr Tompkins and his wife Dawn, 53, were feeling increasingly powerless in help-

Continued on page 2, col 5

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BIG PICTURES

Diana, Princess of Wales with Dodi Fayed in St Tropez yesterday during her fourth cruise in five weeks. Page 3

Left-wing anger as Saatchi gets millennium role

By Andrew Pierce and James Landale

PETER MANDELSON faced a left-wing backlash last night after it emerged that M&C Saatchi, the Tories favourite advertising agency, has been awarded the £16 million advertising contract for the Greenwich dome.

The Government's difficulties over the £250 million project deepened as it emerged that the German company sacked from the £6 million contract to construct the skin of the dome is seeking damages of more than £2 million.

The decision by the New Millennium Experience Company to give the prestigious contract to M&C Saatchi has also caused disquiet in the advertising industry. Two of the company's senior partners were key advisers on the millennium celebrations.

But it was the idea of appointing M&C Saatchi, which created "New Labour, New Danger", ridiculed Tony Blair as Helmut Kohl's puppet and ran the demon eyes poster censured by the Advertising Standards Authority, that proved the last straw for many left-wing Labour MPs.

Ken Purchase, the Labour MP for Wolverhampton North East, said: "It would not have been my choice. I would not let enemies of the Labour Party run a chip shop let alone be given millions of pounds of lottery money to promote the dome, which many people don't even want. What an extraordinary state of affairs."

Ronnie Campbell, the MP for Blyth Valley, was surprised that Mr Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio who is in charge of the project, had not blocked their appointment. During the election campaign Mr Mandelson described the demon eyes posters as "despicable".

"The agency is a waste of money," Mr Campbell said. "No one believed their lies about Labour during the election ... why should they believe anything they have got to say about the dome?"

The Tories accused the millennium company of a potential conflict of interest over the appointment. Bill Muirhead, a partner in M&C Saatchi, was acting communications director of the millennium company until the middle of June. He stood down from the unpaid role when the search for an advertising agency began. Jeremy Sinclair, the agency's creative force, was also an adviser. He left at the same time. Now the Tories are accusing the Government of "jobs for the boys".

Girls' school tops the A-level table

The sixth-formers of Withington School, Manchester, who had a record score for GCSE two years ago, have repeated their performance to make it the first girls' school to top *The Times* A-level league table. St Paul's *Girls' School, London*, is second.

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Philanderer Clark set to convert to Catholicism

By our Diary Staff

ALAN CLARK, the Conservative MP, historian and diarist, who admitted that he deserved to be horsewhipped for his adulterous behaviour, is expected to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Mr Clark has been taking instruction from the priest who has brought John Gummer and Ann Widdecombe, his fellow Conservative politicians, into the fold and is expected to be received into the Church shortly.

Father Michael Seed, ecumenical adviser to the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, and an unofficial chaplain to Parliament, has been seeing Mr Clark for some time.

"He makes no secret of our meetings and our friendship, but whether he will or won't convert I cannot say. As a priest, I couldn't say any more than that," Father Seed said. However, a senior member of the Church said this week that Mr Clark was on the brink of "coming over". He said: "We almost have him."

Mr Clark's conversion would be the latest of a string of high-profile defections from the Anglican faith the like of which has not been seen since Evelyn Waugh and other literary glitterati beat a path to Rome in the 1930s and 1940s.

Father Seed had similar long sessions with John Gummer, the former Cabinet minister, and Ann Widdecombe, the former Prisons Minister, to help them to make the leap.

The Duchess of Kent and Frances Shand Kydd, the mother of Diana, Princess of Wales, have also become Roman Catholics.

Father Seed, 40, is a member of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement who was born into an evangelical Protestant family in Manchester but became a Catholic at the age of 17 after several years as a Baptist.

He has officiated at the wedding of a cousin of the Duke of Norfolk and written a book recording the views on the afterlife of 100 personalities, including Sir John Gielgud and the Dalai Lama. He also puts in long hours talking to less eminent figures and hearing confessions and celebrating Mass at Westminster Cathedral.

It is not known whether he will be on the scene when Mr Clark kneels for the first time to make his confession. The MP himself is believed to be putting the finishing touches to his history of the Conservative Party and was unavailable to comment yesterday.

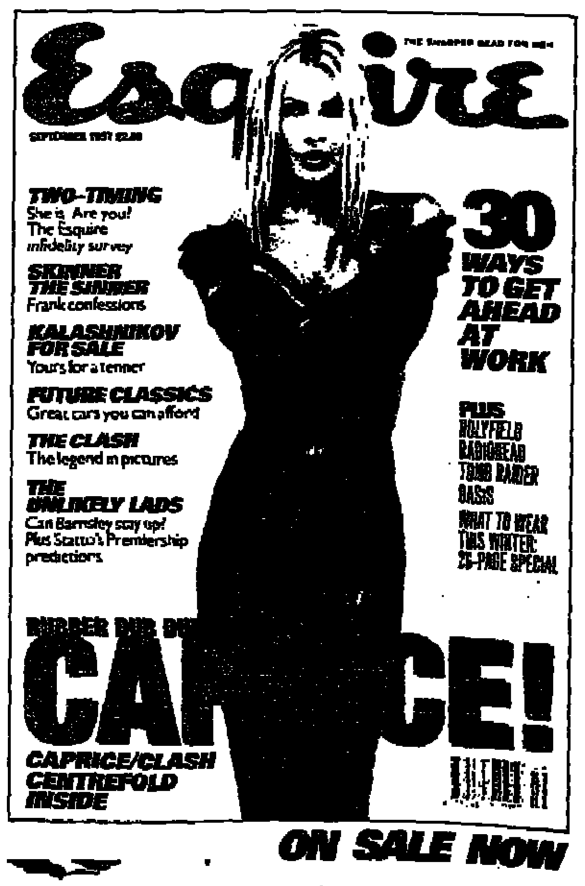
In Esquire this month:

"If an alcoholic is someone who relies on a drink to get through the day, then yes, I suppose I am one" ***Frank Skinner Esq***

"There's gonna be a new movement that's got little to do with music, but lots to do with attitude" ***Liam Gallagher Esq***

"I thought, why dress like that when you can look like Elvis?" ***Mark Lamarr Esq***

"It is impossible to create such a spectrum of guns without love for these weapons" ***Mikhail Kalashnikov Esq***



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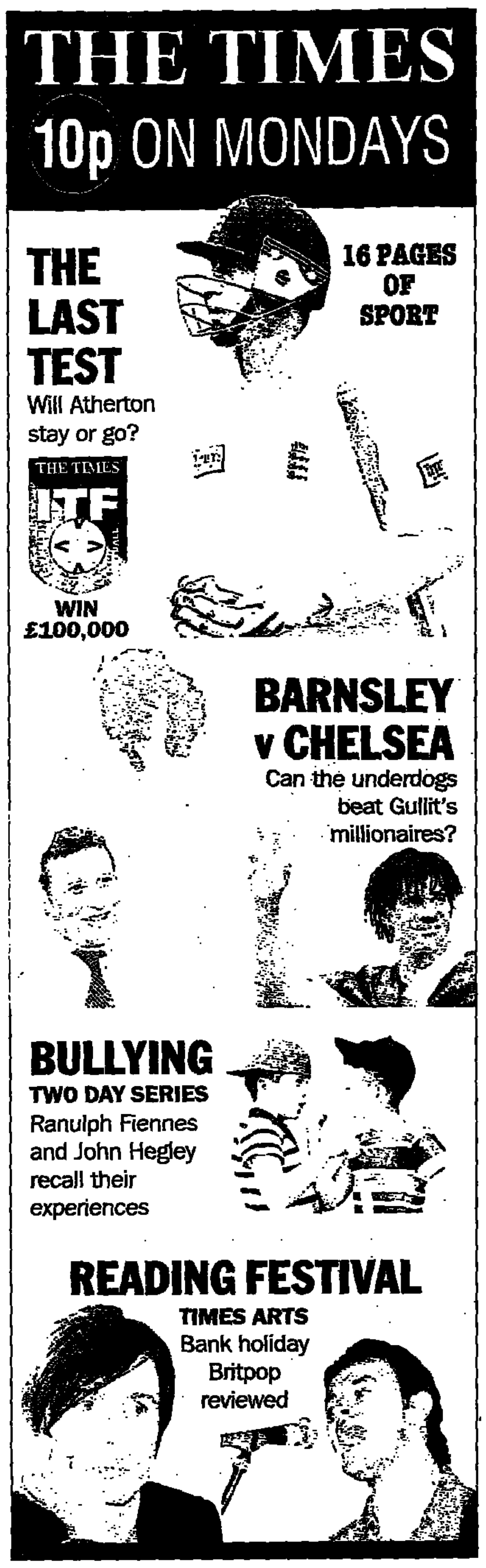
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TIMES ARTS
Bank holiday Britpop reviewed

Senior banker warns of £300 tartan tax

By Nicholas Watt
Political Correspondent

A LEADING Scottish banker yesterday warned that the average wage earner could be worse off by more than £300 a year under the Government's plans for a tax-varying parliament in Edinburgh.

As the campaign for next month's referendum intensified, Sir Bruce Pattullo, the Governor of the Bank of Scotland, said that a different tax regime would "stick out like a sore thumb".

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, who joined Labour's campaign for a Yes Yes vote in Glasgow yesterday, dismissed Sir Bruce's remarks. "Play around with your money but just leave us to get on with our politics," he said as he opened a new taxi depot in a Glasgow suburb.

Sir Bruce's intervention, which was supported by the entire board of the bank, was carefully designed to provoke a debate about the dangers of increased taxes in the finals weeks of the campaign.

Although opinion polls in Scotland indicate overwhelming support for a parliament, many Labour voters have indicated that they will vote against giving the body the power to raise taxes. In the latest *Scotsman*/ICM poll, 68 per cent of electors said they would vote Yes to the first question which will ask whether a parliament should be established. More than half (56 per cent) said they would vote Yes to the second question on whether the parliament should have "tax-varying powers".

Sir Bruce warned voters that they could be worse off by £6 a week if the parliament chose to raise taxes. He also accused ministers of misleading voters because the wording in the referendum left open the possibility that the parliament could raise more than just income tax. The phrase "tax-varying" in the referendum question is vaguer than last month's White Paper on the parliament, which recommended that the body should have the power to increase or decrease only the basic rate of income tax by a maximum of three pence.

Sir Bruce told *The Scotsman*: "In the United Kingdom [Scots] are going to live in a region which has a different tax regime and it is going to stick out like a sore thumb. I do not want to dramatise the situation. It will be slow and corrosive."

Campaigners for a Scottish parliament rounded on Sir Bruce. Alex Salmond, the leader of the Scottish National Party, who used to work for the rival Royal Bank of Scotland, dismissed Sir Bruce's remarks as "pure folly". Speaking at the launch of his party's campaign in Glasgow, Mr Salmond said: "As an individual, Bruce is entitled to say what he pleases. But it is slightly worrying and slightly strange that he should do so and start a yes-no campaign as the Bank of Scotland itself."

Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, dismissed Sir Bruce's fears. He told BBC Radio: "Most people, on mature reflection, will see that most of the things that Sir Bruce is saying simply do not bear up or stand up. We have made sure there is [a level playing field] because the Corporation Tax regime will be the same the length and breadth of the kingdom."

Sir Bruce's comments indicate that a siginificant proportion of the Scottish business community is opposed to tax-varying powers. Scottish Financial Enterprise, whose members include the Bank of Scotland, Scottish Widows and BT, has warned that higher taxes would drive businesses over the border.

But supporters of devolution say that increasing numbers of business leaders have embraced the idea of a parliament. The Royal Bank of Scotland said it was "perfectly relaxed" about the referendum.

CHRIS BACON/PA

John Prescott blows a saxophone while campaigning in Falkirk yesterday for a Yes vote in the referendum on a Scottish parliament. He told Sir Bruce to keep out of politics

NEWS IN BRIEF

Skeleton puzzle and a DNA Dales hunt

Samples of DNA are to be taken from people in a Yorkshire Dales village in an attempt to identify living descendants of the pre-historic skeleton of a young man found by Yorkshire Electricity workers 18 inches below the ground in a field in Kettlewell, near Skipton.

Archaeologists are hailing the find as one of the most significant in years. The skeleton — thought to be more than 4,000 years old — was found curled up in the foetal position, suggesting a pre-Christian burial.

It is thought he died from natural causes. Scientists from Bradford University's department of Archaeological Sciences are studying the remains to determine the age and sex of the skeleton and cause of death. Another grave was found nearby two weeks ago.

Loyalist in-fighting

Feuding loyalist paramilitaries carried out tit-for-tat petrol bomb attacks in Londonderry and fired shots. A teenage girl suffered facial burns when two petrol bombs were thrown into a house. Nobody else was injured. Police blamed the violence on rivals in the UVF and the UDA. "None of these attacks was sectarian," a spokesman said.

Police pay plan dropped

Plans to introduce performance-related pay for Britain's senior police officers have been abandoned after chief constables protested that it could undermine their independence. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has agreed a new pay package for chief constables, deputies and assistants which drops linking pay with their performance.

Thieves threaten cat

A couple were robbed at knifepoint by a gang who threatened to microwave their cat. The three men stole Cartier and Rolex watches. They then threatened to kill the cat by putting it into the microwave oven unless the couple handed over jewellery and a stereo system. Police have only just disclosed details of the attack 12 days ago.

Migrant smuggler jailed

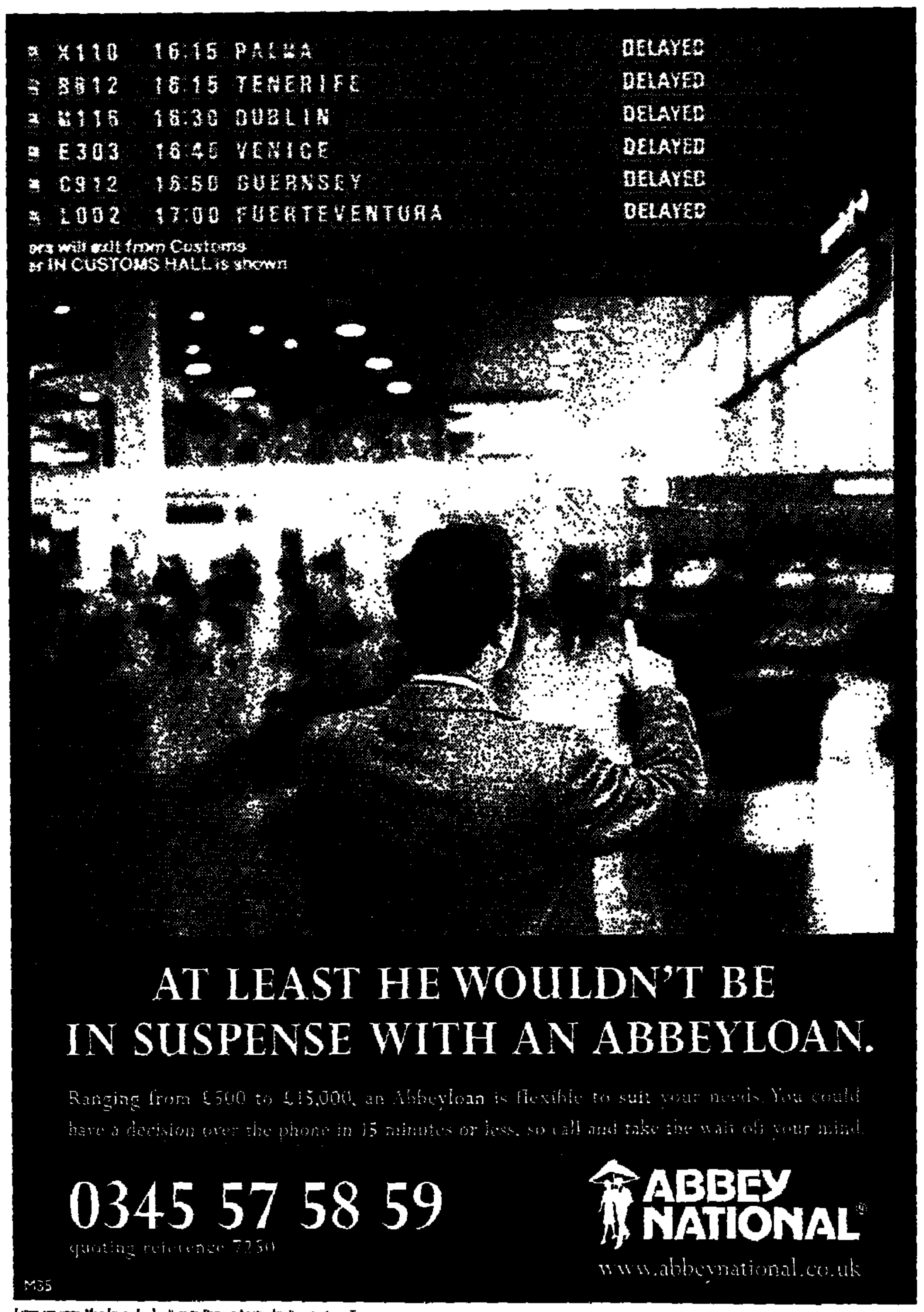
A Frenchman was jailed for 2½ years yesterday at Maidstone Crown Court for attempting to smuggle nine Chinese illegal immigrants through the Channel Tunnel. Mario Fernandez-Neira, 26, of Paris, maintained that he thought he was only carrying two people in his Mercedes van and a judge sentenced him on that basis.

Paedophile priest dies

Brendan Smyth, the paedophile priest whose extradition case brought down the Irish Government in 1994, died last night after a suspected heart attack. Smyth, 69, was serving a 12-year sentence in Ireland for abusing 20 boys and girls in his care. He had previously served four years in Northern Ireland for similar offences.

Loseley heir's funeral

The funeral was held yesterday of 12-year-old Christopher More-Molyneux, a member of the Loseley dairy family who died on Monday in an accident on a child's motorcycle. More than 300 mourners joined his parents and their three other children, in the packed village church in Compton, Surrey.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Father tells of last birthday

Continued from page 1

ing their daughter and eventually decided to book her into a private psychiatric clinic.

"But she would be crying most of the time and her eyesight was becoming affected and she was losing a lot of weight. She began to get double vision ... her memory loss was such that she couldn't remember what she had for lunch."

Mr Tompkins described how he would lay a trail of chairs across the living room for his daughter to reach the door as her condition worsened. "She was at the clinic for four and a half weeks from the end of February until after Easter and during that time there was no progress. We brought her home because we felt that maybe she just needed love and care.

"Her weight loss was frightening. She was normally about 7st 3lb and we struggled to get her over 5st 10lb by giving her nutritional drinks. Up until March she was still concerned about her appearance and was putting on make-up ... we took her on a short break to Norfolk but by May 10 we realised she was getting worse." Clare was readmitted to the private clinic two days later.

May 13 will never be forgotten by Mr Tompkins. It was Clare's birthday and father and daughter had their last conversation. "We simply talked about how it was her 24th birthday and how much we all loved her," he said. "Because of her illness she could not open her cards and presents, so we did it for her."

Clare Tomkins pictured with her fiance, Andrew

Mr Tompkins said Clare's condition deteriorated during motivational therapy at the private clinic and on May 28 she became unconscious and was taken to the Kent and Sussex Hospital in Tunbridge Wells.

It was there over the next two and a half months that doctors finally came to the conclusion that Miss Tompkins's condition was not psychological but neurological.

During that time Miss Tompkins was given intravenous anti-depressants and her father also consented to electro convulsive treatment for his daughter under general anaesthetic. Ten days ago she was taken to St Mary's Hospital in Paddington which specialises in the investigation of CJD. There the disease was confirmed.

Mr Tompkins recalled that in February his daughter had a brain scan which cannot reveal CJD. It was discussed in a speculative way. "I said 'you can forget that because she's been a vegetarian for 11 years'."

Last Tuesday Miss Tompkins came home from the Kent and Sussex Hospital. Her father said: "She is very comfortable. We play her the tapes she loves of dolphin and whale music. She has nursing day and night and she is being fed through her stomach. Our conversation is eye contact. She will recognise things what you say but she can't talk. She has pictures of animals in her room as she's always had."

At the garden centre where Miss Tompkins had worked for the last eight years after leaving a local school with five GCSEs, staff were close to tears after they learned yesterday for the first time about her illness.

Terry Shead, the garden centre owner, said: "I've known her since she was a baby and everyone here is absolutely shocked, it is so tragic." Mr Shead has no idea how Miss Tompkins could have contracted CJD. As manager of the pet department she did handle dry dog food as well as other tinned products for animals.

Mr Tompkins also has no idea. His daughter insisted that all packet food was checked to see whether it contained animal fats. He remembers that she might have taken nutritional tablets to supplement her vegetarian diet.

It was at a family meeting last week that Mr and Mrs Tompkins, their daughter Lisa, 28, her husband and Andrew, who has visited his dying fiancee constantly, decided to talk publicly about Clare's illness.

A picture of Lisa's wedding, where Clare was bridesmaid, takes pride of place in the room where the family made their decision.

Mr Tompkins said: "She is only the 22nd person to contract this disease in the world. The odds against that alone must be millions.

"When you consider that not a piece of meat, nor any other animal fat, has passed her lips in 11 years ... well I must admit that there is some anger inside me at the injustice of it.

"Our main concern now is that other parents whose children might be suffering from this terrible disease are aware of the possibility sooner than we were."

Bottomley father has last rural ride

By A Staff Reporter

VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY, the former Tory Heritage Secretary, joined an unusual funeral procession on the Isle of Wight for her late father yesterday — by retracing the family's traditional Easter ramble across fields to a local churchyard.

Her husband, Peter, also a Tory MP, helped to carry the coffin of John Garnett, who died last week aged 76. He described the funeral as a "semi-public event".

Members of the public out walking their dogs looked on as the 30-strong funeral procession, including Peter Jay, the broadcaster, who is Mrs Bottomley's cousin, made its way along the country pathways to St Helen's Church near Seaview.

The half-mile route from the Garnett family home took in an uphill tree-lined footpath, a hedge-lined grass field occupied by young cows, and finally a vast field of straw before reaching the church. The route was the one walked by the extended family to the church each Easter.

The funeral service was conducted by the Right Rev David Halsey, former Bishop of Carlisle, who lives on the Isle of Wight, and was an old friend of Mr Garnett. Canon Howard Barker, Vicar of St Helen's, said he thought it was nice touch that the family had chosen to bring the coffin down a rural footpath to. "This type of thing used to happen quite often before the days of the motor car, but it isn't seen very often in modern times."

Mr Garnett was the director of the Industrial Society from 1962 to 1986. He was renowned as a gifted speaker and lecturer.

Gift horse wins diplomacy stakes

Ben Macintyre in St Martin d'Oydes reports on the sealing between leaders of a stable relationship

CHRISTOPHE ENA

The Blairs with the new four-legged friend that they will leave behind in France. The five-month-old foal is descended from the breed that crossed the Alps with Napoleon

THERE is a moment familiar to many holidaymakers in rural France when the Big Man of the locality invites himself for lunch, bringing goodwill, bags of fresh produce and a bottle of the local plonk.

This, on a grand scale, was the fate of Tony Blair yesterday when Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, visited him at the château in southwest France where the Blairs have spent the last week of their holiday.

In the best tradition, the Jospin visit was accompanied by the presentation of bouquets of flowers, jars of pâté de foie gras, expressions of political solidarity and, rather more unexpectedly, a small, stocky, and extremely frisky horse.

Cherie Blair, plainly wondering about the logistics of packing it when the family leaves next Tuesday, appeared to swallow hard when the five-month-old Mérens foal, named Justin de Vives, was handed over in the scorching village square at St Martin-d'Oydes as a going-home present.

"The children are very excited," she said, a little dubiously, but was visibly relieved when the village mayor announced that this "four-wheel-drive of the horse world, descended from the breed that crossed the Alps with Napoleon", would remain in the village to await the Blairs' next visit.

The experience of John Major underlines the wisdom of Prime Ministers looking gift horses in the mouth. He was presented with a highly-strung stallion by the President of Turkmenistan for his 50th birthday in 1993, but gained only a series of diplomatic embarrassments from the present.

The President took offence as months went by without the £30,000 horse being collected from his stables. Then came the long and arduous transportation from the central Asian state. Finally Maksat was turned down by the Queen's Life Guards as too frisky and is enjoying a leisured life on a stud farm in Wales.

But Mr Blair was determined to be grateful for his animal. Looking tanned and relaxed beside the pallid, grey-haired M Jospin, he wheeled out his French again to thank the local folk for their welcome and generosity. "I have been given many things over the years — clocks, pens, flowers — but up until now I have never been given a horse," he said. "It will give me and my children lots of pleasure." But only when in France, he might have added.

Before a crowd in which sweating television journalists outnumbered the locals, Mr Blair sang the praises of his holiday spot and his French counterpart. "We are partners," he said. M Jospin added firmly: "We are both Socialists", determined to show that old French socialism is not so far removed from new Labour.

The event, designed to show that despite reports to the contrary the two Prime Ministers are on the most friendly terms, passed off without a hitch, though the heat and noise were clearly affecting the local fauna. Justin and his mother whinnied and threatened to bolt, but it was the French press corps that finally stampeded, breaking out of its designated position and engulfing the two men and their wives as they attempted a brief walkabout.

After a *vin d'honneur* (in this case, champagne), the Prime Ministers repaired to the Blairs' holiday château for a lunch of poached salmon cooked by the Spanish chef brought with them from Tuscany. The meeting was arranged at the request of M Jospin, whose constituency is just 20 miles away.

To judge from their enraptured expressions, the citizens of St Martin were relishing their 15 minutes of abnormality. From now on, there will be a corner of France, and a stout Napoleonic pony, which is for ever Blairite.

The long summer break is revived

By Nicholas Watt
Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR flies back to London this weekend at the end of his three-week continental break having chalked up yet another record. He has taken the longest foreign holiday of any prime minister in more than 40 years.

Not since an ailing Winston Churchill spent three weeks working on his wartime memoirs in Jamaica in 1953 has a prime minister spent such a long period away from British shores.

While John Prescott and Peter Mandelson have jostled for position, the Prime Minister has enjoyed time with his young family in the Tuscan hills and in the Ariège region of France.

Such a relaxing summer contrasts with Baroness Thatcher's distaste for holidays. She used to squeeze in a few days in Switzerland and once reportedly told a friend: "My heart and lungs don't stop during the recess, so why should my brain?"

Mr Blair's break has revived a tradition of lengthy continental breaks. The Liberal prime ministers, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and Herbert Asquith, used to spend months in France. Asquith even had to travel to Biarritz to become Prime Minister because Edward VII was holidaying there.

In recent decades prime ministers have either taken a holiday at home or travelled abroad for short periods. Sir Edward Heath is Mr Blair's only rival. In 1971 Mr Wilson dubbed him a "part-time prime minister" when it was announced he was to skipper *Morning Cloud* for two weeks in the Admiral's Cup.

Camilla goes tourist as Diana jets off

But Prince is the true king of vacations

Emma Wilkins contrasts the highs and lows of going on holiday

FOLLOWING in the footsteps of Diana, Princess of Wales, Camilla Parker Bowles made her way to Stansted airport yesterday for her holiday flight. The two women left within 13 hours of each other, but their methods of transport could not have been more different.

While the Princess left for the French Riviera on a £20 million private jet owned by Mohamed Al Fayed, Mrs Parker Bowles queued at dawn to board an Airbus A320 charter flight to Malaga in Spain.

The Princess, who left at 7.30 on Thursday evening for a flight to Nice with Dodi Fayed, sank into the leather seats in a 19-seater Gulfstream jet. Mrs Parker Bowles, who left at 6.40 the following morning, had to shuffle on board the 180-seater plane with other holidaymakers.

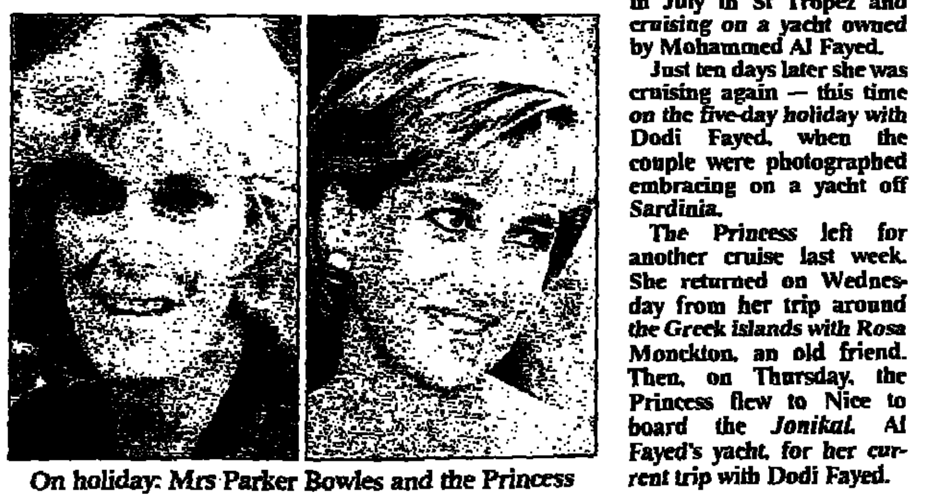
On board Mr Al Fayed's jet, which is equipped with its own stereo sound system, passengers can choose whatever delicacies they desire — and all washed down with the finest champagne. A standard breakfast of omelette, beans and sausages was available for passengers on the Leisure International flight; drinks are extra.

Mrs Parker Bowles, who is staying with the Marquess of Douro at his 2,200-acre estate near Granada, paid £190 for her ticket. The cost of chartering a Gulfstream jet is £3,000 an hour, although if you are lucky enough to own the plane, the running costs are a mere £1,000 an hour.

When the Princess arrived at Nice airport, she and Mr Fayed were driven to the harbour in a blue Mercedes accompanied by bodyguards. The couple, who are on their fourth trip abroad since early July, boarded a tender for the journey out to the *Jonikal* — Mr Al Fayed's £15 million motor yacht moored 500 yards out.

Mrs Parker Bowles will spend a week with the Marquess, son of the Duke of Wellington, and his wife Antonia. The Douros are among the select band of confidantes who have supported the Prince and Mrs Parker Bowles over many years.

It is understood that Mrs Parker Bowles chose the early flight to elude photographers.



On holiday: Mrs Parker Bowles and the Princess

AS Diana, Princess of Wales, enjoyed her fourth cruise in five weeks yesterday, some observers began to wonder if she had caught the holiday bug from her sister-in-law.

In fact, the Princess's total amount of holiday — just over four weeks so far this year — looks positively modest when compared to the amount of time off enjoyed by her former husband.

The Prince of Wales has taken at least nine weeks off so far this year. His present summer holiday at Balmoral will continue until his next official engagement, in the second week of September.

In January, the Prince enjoyed his traditional New Year skiing holiday in the Swiss resort of Klosters. He spent six days on the slopes with Prince Harry. Later the same month, the Prince decided he needed another break and travelled to Scotland. After spending a few hours on official engagements in Edinburgh, he enjoyed the remainder of the week fishing, hunting and walking on the Balmoral estate. In March, he took Princes William and Harry to Kenya and Tanzania on a ten-day safari holiday.

The Princess, by contrast, has had a thin time this year. She spent a week at New Year in the Caribbean at the K Club on the island of Barbuda. Later the same month, the Princess visited Angola to highlight the issue of landmines.

The Princess did not take another holiday until Easter, when she took Princes William and Harry to the K Club for a week. The Princess spent ten days in July in St Tropez and cruising on a yacht owned by Mohammed Al Fayed.

Just ten days later she was cruising again — this time on the five-day holiday with Dodi Fayed, when the couple were photographed embracing on a yacht off Sardinia.

The Princess left for another cruise last week. She returned on Wednesday from her trip around the Greek islands with Rosa Monckton, an old friend. Then, on Thursday, the Princess flew to Nice to board the *Jonikal*, Al Fayed's yacht, for her current trip with Dodi Fayed.

Keep your cool, trippers told

By Kathryn Knight

WEATHER FORECAST, PAGE 28

THE Bank Holiday getaway began yesterday, with a weekend of thundery showers expected. Holidaymakers are unlikely to get much relief from the hot and humid weather, and storms were forecast, with flooding possible in the South.

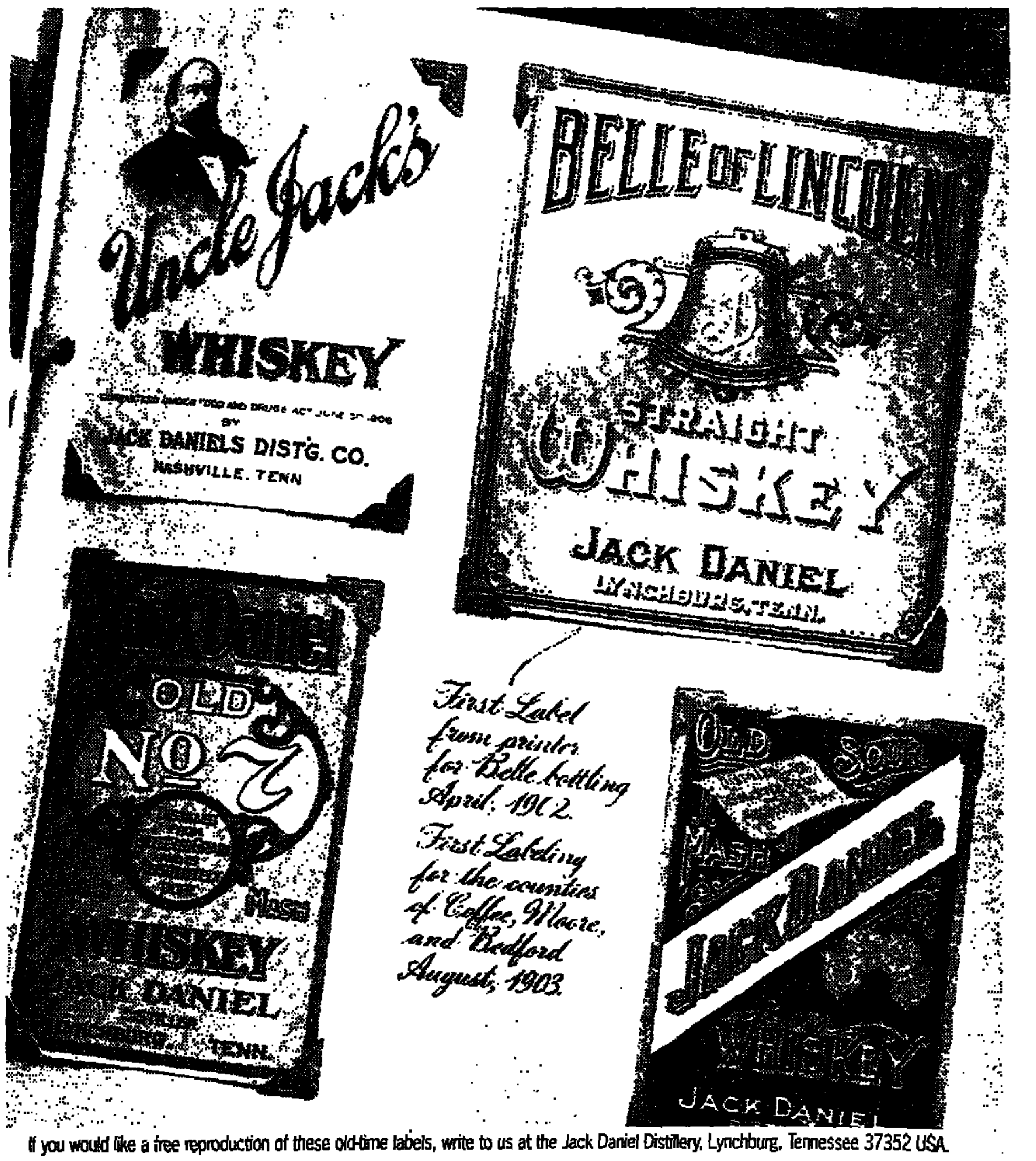
Motorists were warned to protect the car from overheating. The AA was attending a breakdown caused by overheating every five minutes.

Martin Roley, a national forecaster, said that most holidaymakers would have hot sunshine but should pack their rainwear. "It's going to stay warm and will feel very, very humid in the South, with temperatures in the upper-20s. In the North it will be much fresher with showery rain but still with plenty of dry and sunny weather," he said. It was not yet possible to be precise about Monday's outlook.

The AA advised motorists to stagger their journeys. By evening yesterday, congestion had built up to all popular holiday destinations, including the Lake District, Scotland, the South West and Wales. The AA said that it would help motorists if, despite the steamy heat, they could keep a cool temper.

On the Dorset coast, where the heat has led to an increase in poisonous weever fish, bathers were warned to wear plastic sandals to avoid being bitten. In Bristol, an ice rink melted when the cooling towers failed to cope with soaring temperatures.

Police reported traffic jams into Reading as 60,000 rock fans drove into town for the annual festival. Officers appealed to fans not to cool off in the river. "The river might look tempting in the heat, but even in August the Thames is a treacherous place. It has very strong undercurrents which have claimed the lives of bathers."



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[illegible]

Net closes on killer of Lady in the Lake

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

Detective Superintendent Ian Douglas was confident that Carol Park's murderer would be arrested

A BOAT on Coniston Water belonging to Gordon Park was seized by police yesterday after they confirmed that his first wife, who vanished 21 years ago, had been identified as the "Lady in the Lake".

Officers also smashed open a window at Mr Park's home and began an extensive search. He and his third wife, Olive, have been on a cycling holiday in France since the beginning of the month and may not know of the police investigation.

The body of his first wife, Carol, who disappeared when she was 30, was found by divers in a weighted bag in Coniston Water two weeks ago. Detective Superintendent Ian Douglas announced yesterday that the body, which was dressed in a distinctive baby-doll nightdress, had been formally identified using dental records.

Mr Douglas said he was confident that he would arrest the person who had spent the past 21 years believing that they had got away with murder. He appealed to relatives and friends of the dead woman — described as a good family woman and a respected teaching colleague — to come forward.

A Cumbria police spokeswoman said yesterday that scenes of crime officers were searching the boat and Mr Park's house in Barrow-in-Furness, having executed simultaneous search warrants. "Warrants were obtained from Barrow magistrates to search for and if necessary remove evidence in relation to the murder of Carol Park," the spokeswoman said.

Detectives were also expected to try to trace *Sail Fish*, the boat Mr Park owned at the time of his wife's disappearance in July 1976. It was sold several years ago.

Mr Park's current yacht is a 19ft vessel called *Mrs J*. Desmond Slater, 68, a fellow sailor on Coniston Water, recalled him yesterday: "He was a keen competitor. Like me, he liked to go out in a strong wind. We had one or two battles in the lake."

Mrs Park's family were yesterday trying to come to terms with the confirmation of her death. She and her husband had three children: Vanessa, now 29, Jeremy, 27, and Rachel, 26.

On the day she disappeared, the couple had planned a Blackpool daytrip with the children. Mrs Park complained of feeling sick and went to bed. When the family returned to their home in the village of Leece, near Barrow-in-Furness, she was gone. Neighbours praised the way Mr Park took on the task of raising the children.

Mr Douglas said he had spoken to Vanessa and had also contacted Jeremy about the identification of their mother's body. Asked how Jeremy had reacted, he said: "It is a traumatic time for all the family."

Mrs Park's brother, Ivor Price, 57, said on *GMTV*: "I have always kept an open mind about what happened to her. I thought she might have just walked out. She was fluent in languages and I thought she might have been integrated into a foreign community. I thought she might have come back when my mother died. When she did not, I started to think not that she was dead but that she might never come back.

"Now I have to accept that she is dead, bringing to an end a 21-year-old nightmare. But God only knows the nightmare I must now face, having to accept what happened to her."

Much of the police paperwork about Mrs Park's disappearance from her bungalow has been lost or disposed of in clearouts. Mr Douglas said: "This is a long, complicated inquiry and will be for a while."

But he added: "We are on the trail of whoever carried out this murder. Twenty-one years on, I am sure that he or she thought they were safe. They are not. We are on their tail and I am quite confident we will eventually arrest someone for this."

Police expect Mr Parks, a retired teacher, to return from holiday in the next few days. Mr Douglas had no plans to send officers to France.

BARRY GREENWOOD

Police breaking into Gordon Park's home yesterday. He and his third wife are on a cycling holiday in France

Man tells how getaway car ran him down

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

Burns: left disabled after car dragged him along

A MAN who went to investigate a suspected burglary told yesterday how he was left permanently disabled after he was trapped beneath a getaway car.

Ralph Burns, 56, had to choose between clinging on beneath the car, or letting go and being run over and almost certainly killed. The driver ignored his screams for 120 yards before swerving to throw him off.

Then he disappeared along the country lane, leaving Mr Burns unconscious and bleeding heavily. Mr Burns spent ten days in a coma with injuries described by a consultant plastic surgeon as unique in his experience.

Mr Burns, a kitchen designer, has lost both kneecaps, the use of his left leg and arm and much of the flesh and muscle from the left-hand side of his body. Doctors have completed a series of skin grafts and grafted blood vessels into the damaged limbs.

Detectives said they were treating the attack as attempted murder. Mr Burns, speaking for the first time since the incident in July, told how he left his home, a converted mill in Cwmbran, South Wales, to investigate noises in an empty property next door. "I was stood at the entrance when this car just seemed to glide towards me at about 20mph. I went under and grabbed something with my hand. I was in terrible pain but I just kept thinking: 'I ain't going under, I ain't going under'."

Mr Burns added: "I don't know whether I did the right thing by going outside — but what was I supposed to do, stay in my house and do nothing?"

Police followed a trail of blood along the road. Detective Sergeant Mike Boycott said: "Someone knows who is responsible. We appeal to their conscience."

Scientists have seen only skulls of the new species

New deer found in a lost world

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A NEW species of muntjac deer has been discovered in an area of Vietnam which is proving to be the richest area in the world for discovering new animals and plants.

The find, one of only a handful of new large mammals discovered this century, follows the discovery of the giant muntjac deer and soala, an ox, in the same area over the past four years.

Researchers said they had also found a new type of carp and pheasant along with several new plant species, including a broadleaf tree and three bamboo species in the Truong Son area.

The discovery of the deer, which has yet to be given a scientific name, was made in April by an international team backed by the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Wide Fund for Nature. Genetic tests have confirmed that the animal, which has a black coat and tiny, Viking helmet-like antlers, is about half the size of the common muntjac and weighs about 15kg, is a new species.

No living specimen has yet been seen by scientists but 18 skulls were collected from hunters who prize the deer known locally as *sam soi cacoong* or "the deer that lives in the deep, thick forest", for its meat.

The rugged Truong Son range, which separates Vietnam and Laos, contains some of Indochina's wildest and most diverse habitats. Scientists believe climatic events during the Pleistocene age led to the area, which out of bounds to scientists between 1939 and 1985, becoming isolated, leading to an abundance of new species.

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صحف [illegible]

Britons face jail for hotel rape lies

A couple on holiday in Cyprus have admitted making up a sex attack so that they could make an insurance claim, reports **Michael Theodoulou**

A ENGLISH mother of four pleaded with a judge in Cyprus yesterday not to jail her after she confessed to making a false rape claim against a hotel worker.

Detectives said that Susan Warburton, 30, thought she could make money by claiming compensation from her holiday insurance. She told the judge: "I'm sorry, I'm very sorry. I have four kids. Please, take pity on me."

Warburton, a divorcee from Stockport, and her fiancé, Paul Shearsmith, 26, will be sentenced on Monday. They face up to a year in jail and a £1,150 fine. Their confession comes a fortnight after an Irish tourist, Annette Mangan, was jailed for four months by the same court in Larnaca for filing a fraudulent rape claim against two Irish United Nations peacekeepers and an Irish tourist.

Mangan, 20, from Dublin, said she wanted revenge against the men for allegedly taking photographs of her while she was making love to another man. The Cypriot authorities have made it clear they will impose the maximum sentences against any tourist whose behaviour threatens its reputation as a holiday destination.

Last night Stockport Social Services said it had not been told of Warburton's problem but added: "As long as there is not a problem with the family, then we would not get involved as long as the children are being cared for in a mature and sensible way. If there are problems we would give every support to keep the children together." British diplomats were also alerted to the case last night after Miss Warburton's court appearance.

The Stockport couple, who were staying in a hotel near Ayia Napa, reported the false rape on Thursday, telling police it had happened 32 hours earlier. They claimed that while Warburton slept naked and Shearsmith was out, the Greek Cypriot member of staff entered their room, covered her mouth with his hand and raped her.

The police became suspicious after learning that the couple had waited for more than a day to report the incident and did so only a few hours before they were due to fly home. Each was then questioned separately.

Police said both finally admitted they had lied in order to get money from their insurance company. A leading insurance firm, Columbus Travel Insurance Direct, said: "There is no policy that would cover such a provision.

"They could claim for medical expenses but they would need to have supporting evidence, such as a police report. It could also cover extended hotel bills."

Both pleaded guilty to charges of public mischief and conspiring to commit a felony.

"I'm sorry for what I did. I won't do it again," Shearsmith told the court before the couple were ordered to remain in police custody until Monday.

Warburton, her short blonde hair pulled back from her tanned face, left the court looking morose.

Each year the island's courts deal with British tourists arrested on charges ranging from possession of small amounts of soft drugs to filing fraudulent insurance claims, mostly for items such as video cameras and jewellery.

The judge who jailed Mangan explained it was a deterrent sentence, although her family are filing an appeal for clemency and early release on Monday. Her father, Albert Mangan, said: "I understand over there four months means four months. Annette is quiet and gets panicky. We are in a terrible state over this."

TAKIS ANTONIADES

Susan Warburton and Paul Shearsmith, centre, are escorted into court yesterday. They could be jailed for a year over their failed conspiracy

Cypriots beat up off-duty soldiers

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

THREE off-duty British soldiers serving in Cyprus were attacked by a large group of local youths yesterday in the tourist resort of Larnaca.

The three were whisked away to safety by nine Britons serving with the United Nations peacekeeping force, who were passing in a minibus. It was pelted with stones before it sped away with its windscreen shattered.

Army sources said the three young privates, serving with the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment, were attacked by between 30 and 50 Greek Cypriot youths in the early hours outside a burger bar in Larnaca's tourist strip, two miles from the British military base of Dhekelia.

No arrests have been made, but local police are investigating the incident.

The 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment, has been banned from going into the more popular resort of Ayia Napa after five of its members were charged with assaulting three British tourists there earlier this month.

Yesterday's attack is not thought to have been linked to that incident.

Israeli admits killing British holidaymaker

BY ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM AND LIN JENKINS

AN ISRAELI man has admitted killing a Briton and wounding his girlfriend in the Negev desert, police said yesterday.

Daniel Okev, 45, a major in the Israeli army reserves, who was arrested in a police raid, gave no reason for the shooting, the Israeli Ministry of Public Security said. Okev, a truck-driver, who is married with two children, was remanded in a court in Beersheba for 15 days, while police prepared charges.

Max Hunter, 22, a law graduate, of Banstead, Surrey, and Charlotte Gibb, 20, a business student at Durham University, had accepted a lift from a driver north of Eilat, last week. After they stopped for a cigarette, Mr Hunter and the driver exchanged some words in Hebrew. The driver then opened fire.

Okev: confessed to shooting Britons

Miss Gibb, who was shot in the head, arm and hand, was preparing for her first visit from Mr Hunter's parents since the attack, in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, last night. Her parents said that they were glad that an arrest had been made.

David Adlam, a consultant at Addenbrooke's Hospital, said that Miss Gibb, of Market Deeping, Lincolnshire, had received expert care in Israel where surgeons were experienced in dealing with gunshot wounds. "It's a miracle, really. The bullet managed to miss every vital nerve in her face," he said. "Had the trajectory been altered by millimetres it would have killed her."

Israeli police had used an excellent description of the man and his car provided by Miss Gibb to track the suspect before making the arrest at 7.30am yesterday. After the attack, Okev had driven back over the Egyptian border to the hotel where he had been staying. He later returned to his home in the town of Even Yehuda, where he was arrested.

Police said that a gun registered to Okev matched the murder weapon and that a fingerprint found in his vehicle was that of Mr Hunter.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES
DARK SECRET

Kim Philby's treacherous career was pointless, and the notorious double agent was haunted until his death by his role in one of the darkest episodes of the Cold War . . .

Exclusive extract from the memoirs of Phillip Knightley — News Review, tomorrow

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Oxford student sold Ecstasy and cannabis

By Joanna Bale

AN OXFORD undergraduate who dealt in drugs from his college room faces a prison sentence after admitting supplying Ecstasy and cannabis. Records of drug deals, thought to be worth thousands of pounds, and names and addresses of customers were found when police searched Benjamin O'Brien's room after a tip-off.

O'Brien, 19, a first-year politics, philosophy and economics student at Somerville College, also had 41 Ecstasy tablets and small quantities of cocaine and amphetamines in his room at Penrose Buildings.

When questioned by detectives, he admitted supplying the drugs at student parties. A police source said after the hearing: "We believe O'Brien was dealing in thousands of pounds' worth of drugs and making a nice profit for himself.

"Although many students have a liberal attitude towards drug-taking, we all know that Ecstasy, in particular, can be lethal and that appears to have been what he was selling most of."

Somerville College, Baroness Thatcher's alma mater,

O'Brien pleaded guilty to six drugs offences yesterday. He was accompanied at Oxford Crown Court by his father John, a former brewery director, his mother Veronica and a group of relatives and friends.

Judge Paul Clark described the offences as serious and adjourned the case until September 5 for sentencing. The maximum sentence for supplying a class A drug is life imprisonment. O'Brien, who was given conditional bail, is expected to be sent down from Somerville, Baroness Thatcher's alma mater. He was suspended after the drugs find but was allowed to sit his first-year examinations in June.

He lives with his parents and younger brother at Wainstalls, near Halifax. Mrs O'Brien said after the hearing: "Ben is certainly not the first student to pass drugs to his friends."

The Dean of Somerville, James Logue, who was at court, said afterwards: "A decision on long-term action against him will be made by the college governing body at its next meeting in October. They could call it earlier depending on the outcome of the sentencing.

"We have never had anyone convicted of drugs offences at the college before but we do take this very seriously. It is an antisocial activity which can harm students' careers."

The case follows, but is unrelated to, the drugs convictions of two other Oxford students in May. Daniel Legg, 20, of Exeter College, was jailed for three years after admitting dealing in cocaine, Ecstasy and cannabis. Benedict Gilman, 19, a barrister's son who was at St John's College, received 200 hours' community service for possession with intent to supply.

An Oxford University spokeswoman said yesterday that no new steps would be taken to combat drugs. "The O'Brien case is not connected with the two previous convictions. It is an isolated incident," she said. "There is no evidence that the problem is on the increase or that it is any more significant among our students compared with other young people. However, we are not in any way complacent."

CLIVE POSTLETHWAITE

Benjamin O'Brien, 19, at court yesterday. He kept Ecstasy and cocaine in his room

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Ruling moves young from adult jails

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

A SERIES of emergency measures was introduced by the Prison Service yesterday to deal with young offenders after a High Court ruling that it was unlawful for young female offenders aged 16-21 routinely to be put in adult jails.

Although yesterday's written High Court judgment referred specifically to female offenders, the Prison Service admitted that it would probably also apply to the far greater number of young males held with adult criminals.

Tony Pearson, acting director-general of the Prison Service, said the service was considering whether to appeal against the High Court court ruling but that, in the meantime, it had reviewed the position of all female young offenders who had been convicted and sentenced.

Mr Pearson said: "Steps will be taken to ensure all male young offenders are detained in keeping with the court's decision."

As part of emergency action taken to comply with the court ruling, 20 female offenders were moved from adult jails to female young-offender institutions, and Askham Grange women's open jail, near York, has been redesignated as a young-offender institution for females.

A wing at Holloway jail in north London is to be redesignated as a young-offender institution for women. Wings in a number of male prisons are also to be turned into areas specifically for offenders aged 16-21 and will house the 1,400 young male offenders currently held among adult prisoners.

The series of measures follows the case of a girl, aged 16, known only as F, who spent 15 days in Risley prison, near Warrington. A place at Styal has now been found for the girl, who was sentenced to eight months detention for a number of theft offences.

The judgment by Mr Justice Sedley and Mr Justice Astill enforces a section of the 1982 Criminal Justice Act which states that offenders under 21 sentenced to detention in a YOI must be sent there. Although there is a power to detain in prison in individual cases, this should not be a matter of routine or a blanket policy.

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Life for 'Early Bird Rapist' who was freed to strike again

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A SERIAL sex attacker who struck within weeks of being released early from a 14-year sentence was jailed for life at Bristol Crown Court yesterday.

Christopher Clark was freed after serving just ten years and was allowed to live unsupervised at a hostel in the centre of Bath. The 47-year-old former fencing contractor, whose history of sexual offences stretched back over 30 years, was also supposed to have been chemically castrated on the orders of the judge who jailed him in 1987.

Yesterday Clark, who was known as the Early Bird Rapist because he would wait for his victims' husbands to leave for work before striking, was told he would always remain a danger to the public.

Shortly after his release in July last year, he pounced on a young teacher within yards of his bail hostel, pulled a plastic bin-bag over her head but fled when she fought back.

Outraged MPs and Clark's own family yesterday condemned the system that had allowed him out to offend again.

Don Foster, Liberal Democrat MP for Bath, has written to Home Secretary Jack Straw demanding new legislation to stop repeat offenders from terrorising women.

He said: "It is appalling that because of current legislation society is put at risk because of individuals such as Christopher Clark. Clark should never be allowed to strike fear into the heart of a community ever again."

Clark's brother Michael Chaloner, who changed his name to avoid any association, said: "If he had not been let out none of this would have happened."

He said he had begged probation officers not to release his brother from jail without supervision. He said: "I spoke to the probation officers and said they would be stupid to just let him out, but I was ignored.

"When he walked out of those prison gates he was free to do what he wanted. If they had given him parole, he would have to live in a hostel, go to work and be back in the evening. He would be kept in at night, keeping him away from temptation, and he would have been eased back into society."

Clark was convicted at the Old Bailey in 1987 for a series of six attacks on Canvey Island, Essex. He committed two rapes, two burglaries with intent to rape, three assaults and one indecent assault within a 15-mile radius of his home in an eight-month reign of terror.

He selected the homes of women whose husbands or fathers had left for work. They included a stablegirl, a 15-year-old schoolgirl, a pregnant woman and several housewives. Two women, in their 30s, were raped in their beds just minutes after their husbands had left for work.

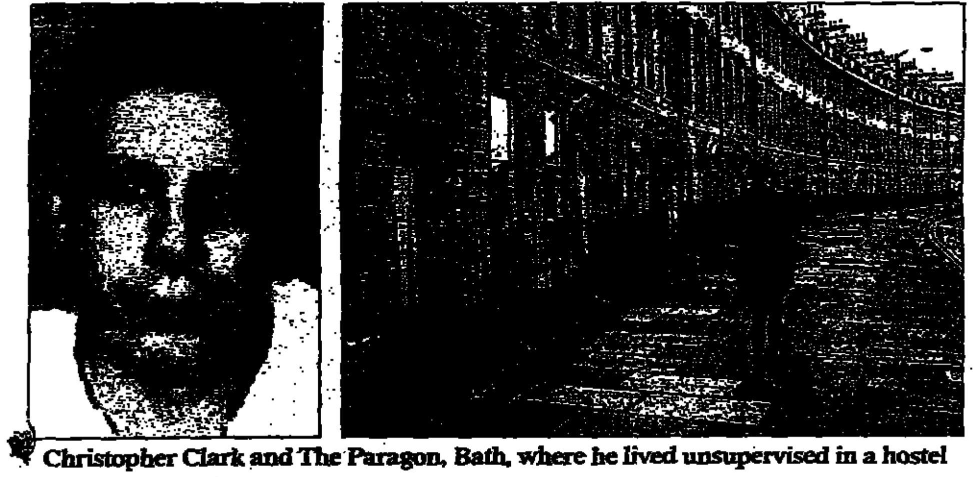
But despite being a category A prisoner, Clark, with three other sex convictions dating back to 1966, was released and placed in the Stonham Housing Association hostel in The Paragon, Bath.

Clark, who denied attempting to render a woman incapable of resistance with intent to commit indecent assault and indecent assault, was arrested after hostel staff noticed a cut under his left eye and marks on his chin.

Forensic analysis matched two blood spots on the woman's skirt to Clark's DNA sample.

His victim's movements bear a chilling similarity to those of fellow blonde Melanie Hall, who was last seen at Cadillac's Nightclub in Bath at 1.10am on June 9, 1996. Clark was among 4,000 people quizzed in relation to the Melanie Hall inquiry, but police yesterday ruled him out of that investigation.

The original trial judge ordered Clark be "chemically castrated" by taking Goserelin to destroy his sexual urges. The court was told that the drug lowers libido by switching off the production of male hormones. Consultant psychiatrist Dr Sydney Crown, of the Royal London Hospital, said it was possible Clark's violent nature "overrode" the drug's effects.



Christopher Clark and The Paragon, Bath, where he lived unsupervised in a hostel

Change in law came too late to prevent release

CHRISTOPHER CLARK was released from jail after serving ten years of his 14-year jail term because he was sentenced under a Criminal Justice Act which allowed for offenders to be released unconditionally after serving two thirds of their sentence.

The law was changed in the 1991 Criminal Justice Act, which allows for automatic release after serving two thirds, but ensures sex offenders remain on licence under supervision by probation staff until the end of the sentence. The Act was not retrospective and as a result did not apply to Clark.

From September 1, anyone convicted of rape must register their names and addresses with the police for life.

The Government is to introduce measures in the Crime and Disorder Bill next year which could lead to sex offenders being supervised for up to ten years after their release.

Ministers are also looking at bringing in indeterminate sentences, under which offenders would be released from prison only when it was considered that they no longer posed a risk to the community.

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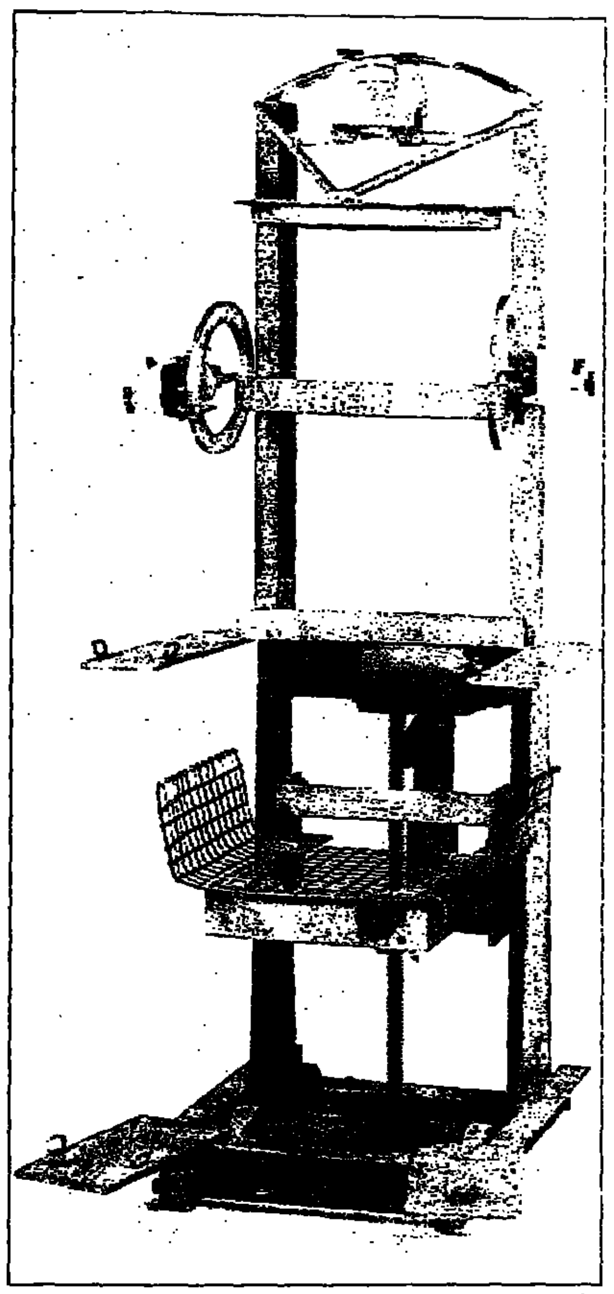

The electric chair was made in 1935 for the State of California and saw use in Alcatraz and St Quentin

The shocking value of Warhol's deadly chair

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A PRE-WAR electric chair used in Alcatraz and once owned by Andy Warhol, who reputedly sat in it to watch horror movies, is to be auctioned next week.

The chair is valued at up to £4,000 and was made for California's Department of Penal Correction in 1935.

It is believed to be the first time that an electric chair has been offered for sale in Britain, and is said to be in good condition.

The chair was moved from prison to prison, and was used in some of America's toughest jails, including St Quentin, Alcatraz and Chino. In the 1950s it was used as a prop by Warner Bros in films such as *The Walls of Folsom Prison*, *Crime Wave* and Hitchcock's 1953 thriller *I Confess*, in which a priest hears the confession of a murderer.

Warhol, who died in 1987, bought the chair from Warner and installed it in his New York apartment. He said that he often used it for watching horror movies. The chair also featured in *Prisoner*, a film by Warhol and his friend Pietro Psaier, and in several of Warhol's prints.

The electric chair, which is being sold at Bristol Auction Rooms on September 9, comes from Pietro Psaier's private collection of Warhol's pop art. Also on offer is the original bottle of Warhol's perfume "Stink" in its exhibition display case.

Hitchcock, left, featured the chair in his 1953 film *I Confess*, before it was sold to Andy Warhol, right

Senior cataloguer David Rees, from Bristol Auction Rooms, said: "It's a very odd, unusual item. To be honest it is very difficult to price. I'm hoping it will fetch between £2,000 and £4,000.

"It seems the chair was moved from prison to prison as a form of deterrent. Prisoners would see the chair going into the jail and would obviously be on their best behaviour. We don't know how often it was used.

"Warhol bought the chair from Warner and then used it as a piece of furniture. It would certainly be a talking point. We're expecting a fair amount of interest in the lot. Anything to do with Andy Warhol is very collectable."

Electric chairs have not been for sale in Amercia since the US Patent Office cleared out all its prototypes several years ago.

The chairs, nicknamed "Old Sparkies", were made of oak and iron with thick leather restraining straps. Two electric chairs offered for sale in New York two years ago were used to execute 700 people between 1890 and 1963, and have become valuable collectors' items.

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Experts' merry old rain dance

Gardeners are getting conflicting advice on beating water shortages. Nick Nuttall is told ice cubes are for gin and tonic, not hanging baskets

A CAMPAIGN by a water company, aimed at showing gardeners how to overcome shortages, has divided horticultural experts. Thames Water's advice includes putting ice cubes in hanging baskets and layers of newspapers over borders.

Anne Swithinbank, broadcaster and columnist, says the best place for ice cubes is in gin and tonic and is concerned about the effect of the print on plants.

The campaign, backed up by radio, press advertisements and leaflets, includes tips from Bob Flowerdew, of *Gardener's World*, on ways to keep the garden moist. He suggests sharpening hoes to rid the garden of water-hungry weeds, putting warm water and washing up liquid in dried-out hanging baskets and using an old freezer to collect rainwater.

Gardening, Weekend, pages 4-6

Ms Swithinbank, a fellow *Gardener's World* panellist and *News of the World* expert, said yesterday that telling people to raise the height of the cut on the lawnmower to keep the grass green and moist was sound advice. But putting down "several thicknesses of wet newspapers" on soils was not her cup of tea. "I do not know what is in the print. But I do not like putting any chemicals in the garden unless I know exactly what they are doing," she said.

Instead of clearing weeds and putting down a mulch, she advocated a more cottage-style approach, in which beds full of self-seeding plants could deliver the same results with less effort.

"If you have lots of leaf cover and shade, then the soil should remain moist," Ms Swithinbank said. Shingle and pebbles could have a similar effect, helping to keep moisture in the soil.

The Thames advice states: "If your hanging baskets dry out completely, they're hard to rewet, so rather than dunking them in the bath, try watering them with warm water with a drop of washing up liquid in it. Or put a few ice cubes on top which will melt and trickle in slowly."

Ms Swithinbank said: "I am not sure how much benefit you would get from this. I would think the best place for ice cubes is in a gin and tonic". Other experts said they thought that it might be a shock for the plants to have ice cold cubes put on them.

Bob Flowerdew's advice to put layers of old newspapers over the borders failed to impress Anne Swithinbank

Many water companies have been recommending that people should invest in water butts to collect rainwater. Mr Flowerdew's advice includes getting hold of an old freezer, painting it black and popping it into the garden to collect rainwater.

A spokeswoman for Greenpeace, the environmental group, said it would be worried about people using old freezers. They could contain CFCs, the chemical that destroys the ozone layer. "If the freezer rusts, these CFCs could escape, unless they have been removed first," she said. "You should always contact a local authority which has a recyling facility before doing this."

Trevor Simms of the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley, Surrey, said yesterday: "We have lots of advice about keeping the garden moist, but it does not include newspapers. As for hanging baskets, we would advise not to let them get dry in the first place. We're not into firefighting."

Credo

Mary's glory puts earthly affairs in a heavenly light

David Hope

LIFE and liturgy belong together. If our worship is to be of any relevance, each must speak to the other, both of the realities of life and of eternal truth.

In the new calendar for use in the Church of England from Advent Sunday 1997, there is for the first time since the Reformation a "red letter" feast day for "The Blessed Virgin Mary", on August 15.

The matter was debated and contested to the last. So why all the fuss? August 15 is in the minds of most Western Christians associated with the dogmatic definition by Pope Pius XII in *Munificentissimus Deus* of the belief that the Blessed Virgin, having finished the course of this earthly life, "was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory".

Anglicans have always been wary of such definings of dogma, not least when it has to do with Mary. Yet the plain fact is that there can be no other response to the rhetorical question: if Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, is not in Heaven, where is she?

Perhaps the best and most straightforward statement is the Salvation Army's "Gone to glory!" And such a statement would in no way be incompatible with the thrust of the prayers for the departed in the Book of Common Prayer burial service, where we pray that the departed may "together with all those that have departed in the true faith of thy holy Name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory".

This feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary is so significant because before all else it is about the abundant and amazing grace of God as set before us in the vocation and response of Mary herself. He "looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of His only Son".

And God goes on choosing the weak and the vulnerable, the despised and the lowly, the poor and the outcast as the means by which and in which his saving purposes are accomplished.

Thus this celebration of God and the wonderful things He has done in Mary is a celebration too of His amazing grace at work in us and in His world. We do not deserve it, but daily he lavishes upon us the riches of His creation.

"The world is charged with the grandeur of God" is Gerard Manley Hopkins's way of putting it. What are we doing to ensure that there is a world which so reflects God's glory rather than man's rapacity and greed? Ecology and the environment are not optional extras for the "green" Christian.

Most important of all, this feast spells out the preciousness and the precariousness of our own creation, that every human person is created in the image and likeness of God, and which is to be reflected in our own being and behaving — God's unselfish love and respect and care for each of us being reflected in the responsibility and the duty we have before God towards others. The moral values to which we aspire spring from the fact that we are that strange conjunction of body and soul. Without the spiritual, the moral itself is in danger of becoming no more than a privatised idolatry.

The spiritual springs from that transcendent power which belongs to God alone, and which we see so gloriously at work in Mary, her vocation, her response and her destiny.

☐ *Dr David Hope is Archbishop of York.*

At Your Service, Weekend, page 13

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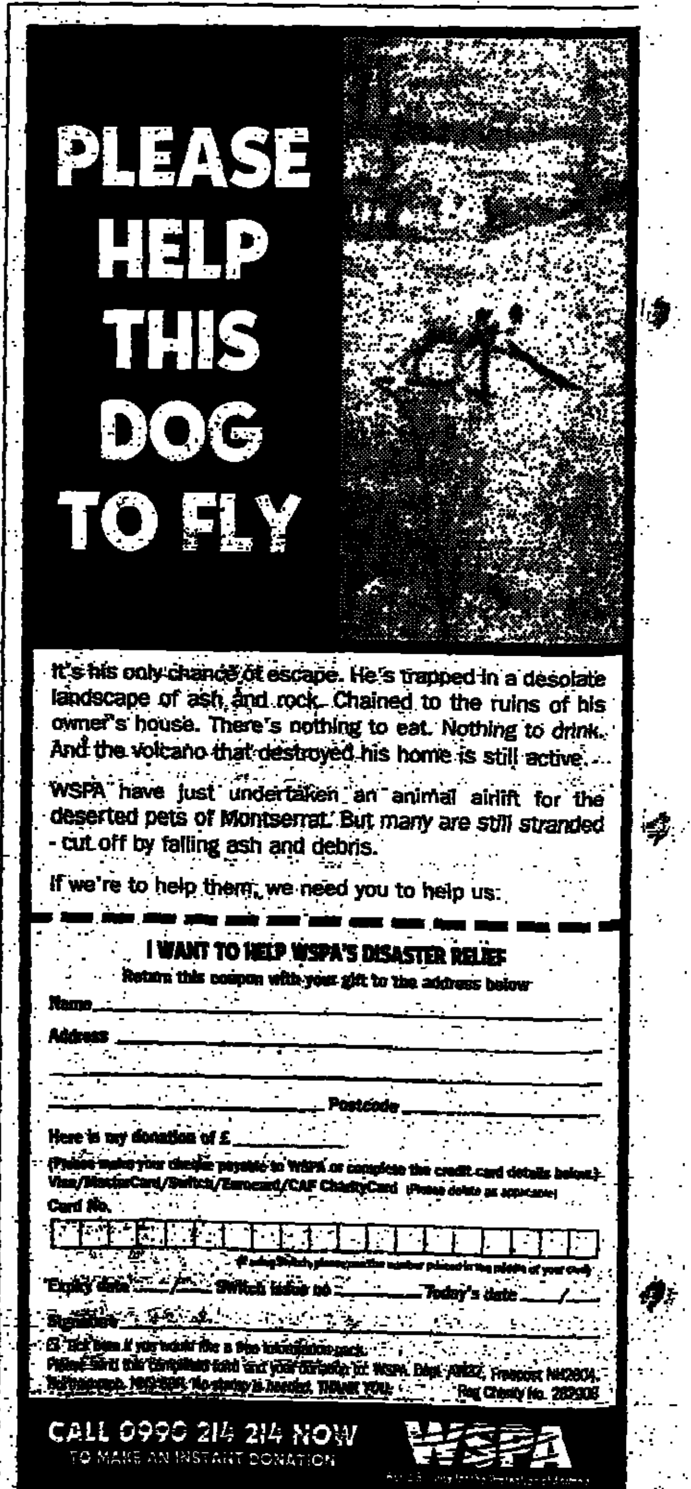

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Funnymen say BBC is stifling creative talent

BY CAROL MIDGLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

TWO of the BBC's most respected comedy writers last night accused the corporation of starving creative talent and called for the television licence fee to be abolished.

Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran, the team behind *Birds of a Feather*, *Shine on Harvey Moon* and *Goodnight Sweetheart*, told delegates at the Edinburgh Television Festival that the BBC did not deserve a state licence fee because it no longer took any creative risks.

Independent producers, they said, were patronised and short-changed by corporation executives, who demanded to own the rights to productions they commissioned. The BBC was also now obsessed with copying ITV's programmes, moving "remorselessly towards the safe, the repetitive, and the cloned".

They said the American system, where teams of comedy writers also produce their shows and were "courted, sought after and highly rewarded", was far more effective for fostering new talent. American comedies such as *Friends* and *Frasier* are currently some of the most popular on British television.

Giving the James MacTaggart Lecture jointly with Mr Gran, Mr Marks said: "If ITV has a vet, BBC wants a vet. If ITV has a moody cop, BBC wants a moodier one." The BBC drama department had over the past few years "resembled a flock of headless chickens". Mr Gran added of the BBC: "The power the creative staff once had has been usurped by legions of lawyers, accountants, business affairs executives and policy unit apparatchiks."

Broadcasters now preferred to spend on "chauffeur-driven cars, on front-of-camera talent, soap stars, celebrity chefs and Hale and Pace". The two men mocked the speech given at last year's lecture by John Birt, Director-General of the BBC, when he asked for an increase in the licence fee. "We are of the generation that once took it as an article of faith that the BBC licence fee is a national monument and must be preserved. We now feel it has outlived its usefulness. Once it may have been liberating; today it is a ball and chain."

Mr Marks and Mr Gran instead proposed a voluntary subscription fee that would allow the BBC freedom and the ability to make more money. Viewers spent £1.25 billion on cable and satellite, and £1.3 billion on videos, so they would be willing to pay £10 a month for a BBC smartcard because it was still highly popular. That would then release the Corporation from the "mercy of politicians".

The MacTaggart Lecture has in the past been delivered by Rupert Murdoch, John Birt, Michael Grade and Dennis Potter.

ASHLEY COOMBES

Worlds apart: Mr Lonsdale, above, in the hall and Mr Hughes, right, with his US team

The low-rent laughs of British comedy's church hall of fame

Dominic Kennedy on the little-known venue that has played host to 20 years of cheap but cheerful sitcoms

THE secret home of British television comedy for the past 20 years is a church hall in West London, where everything from *The Two Ronnies* to *Men Behaving Badly* has been rehearsed.

Terry Hughes, 55, who left Britain to direct *The Golden Girls* and *Friends*, shown on Channel 4, recalls putting Ronnie Barker and Ronnie Corbett through their paces at the parish hall of St Mary Abbots in Kensington. "I just remember the smell of food hanging around there from serving old-age pensioners," he told *The Times* from Los Angeles, where he was last night directing an episode of the comedy *Third Rock From The Sun*, now on BBC2.

Mr Hughes now has an entire studio set in the San Fernando Valley to rehearse his actors. He is backed by a team of ten writers who fine-tune scripts until a show is filmed before a live audience.

Writers can earn $16 million (£10 million) on a four-year contract with a studio. Half an hour of *Seinfeld*, currently top of the ratings in America and shown here on BBC2 and Sky I, costs $4 million to make. The minimum union wage for a writer on an American sitcom is $2,200 a week. British sitcoms are made for as little as £170,000 per episode with writers usually earning between £5,000 and £10,000.

A typical American sitcom has 24 episodes, compared with only seven in the UK. A writer's life is hard: anyone who fails to come up with the required laughs is quickly sacked. The week begins in America on Monday with a read-through of the script by the actors. Anything which fails to raise a laugh is immediately changed. Rehearsals are monitored by executives who demand more changes, leaving the writers to work until 3am daily. Only 60 per cent of the original script will remain by 7pm on Friday, when the audience arrives at the studio. If a joke fails to work during filming, the writers replace it on the spot. The scene is filmed again until the audience laughs. "It's a grind," said Mr Hughes, former head of variety for the BBC. "The writers deserve the money they get because it is relentless."

Studio City, where American sitcoms are rehearsed and filmed, is a far cry from St Mary Abbots, where the church warden, Edward Lonsdale, has welcomed generations of English comedy actors. "There is a kitchen so they can look after themselves and get food and drinks, as well as toilet facilities," he said.

Masking tape is stuck onto the church hall floor to mark the shape of the set. Cheap props, including an old television set with no screen and a headless teddy bear (used once for *Men Behaving Badly*), are carried in and out.

In America, locations such as the radio station in *Frasier*, shown on Channel 4, are permanent sets where actors spend all week practising their lines before filming. In Britain, the bachelor pad in *Men Behaving Badly* arrives in boxes at the television studio in Teddington, south-west London, the night before filming and is pulled down when the audience leaves. St Mary Abbots church hall is luxury for the *Men Behaving Badly* cast, who had to rehearse earlier series in a scout hut. With £220 a day going to church mission funds from the hire of the church hall, Mr Lonsdale has become a connoisseur of television comedy.

"I make a point of watching all the comedies that are done here and virtually all of them I enjoy," he said. "*Men Behaving Badly* is wonderful, it's great fun. Sometimes I spot the odd one or two that are not going to be coming back. I won't tell you which one I think is going to close at the moment."

Simon Nye, who writes *Men Behaving Badly* between his office in the West End and his home overlooking Hampstead Heath, sampled the US system when he sold the format of his show to America. In Studio City, a team of ten writers create 22 programmes a year based on his politically incorrect characters. "The American system is often to panic and needlessly make root-and-branch changes," he said.

Jackie Behan, a writer on *Men Behaving Badly* in America, said: "The Britishers can be a lot more dark and cynical. American audiences like to see more optimism. The British would be quite happy to end with the two men's lives falling apart."

	MEN BEHAVING BADLY	VS	FRASIER
First shown:	1992		1993
Rehearsals:	St Mary Abbots church hall, Kensington		Paramount Studios, Hollywood
Cost:	£200,000 per episode		$3m per episode
Writers:	1		9
Episodes:	6/7 per year		24 per year
Ratings:	6.16m viewers (UK) 9.1m homes (US)		3.2m viewers (UK) 8.1m homes (US)

Ratings are for August 1997

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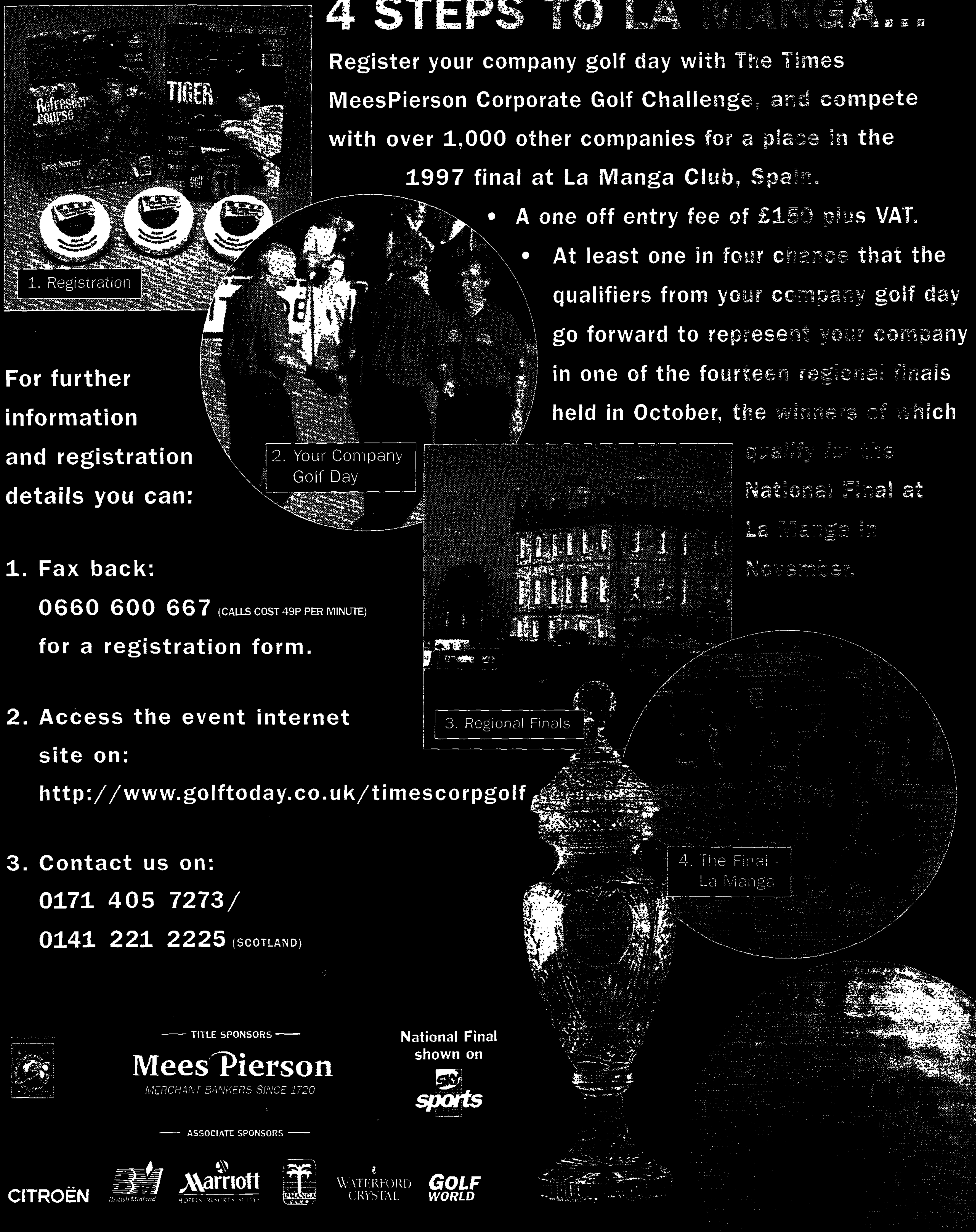

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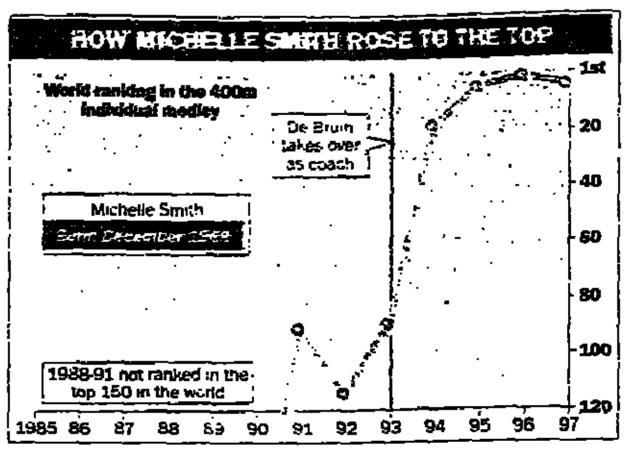
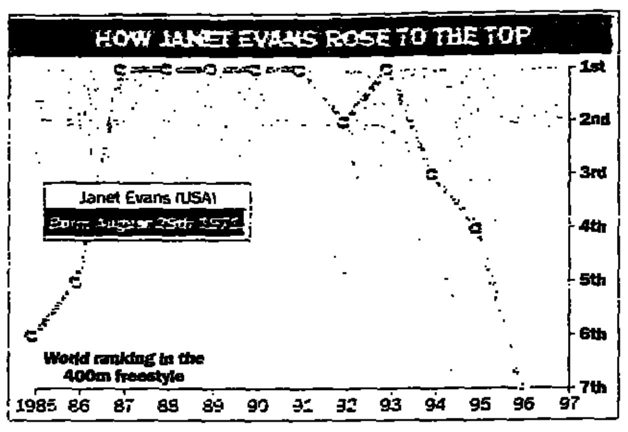
Gold tarnished in murky waters

John Goodbody

on how innuendo took the shine off a swimmer's rapid passage to the fast lane

Three golds and a bronze: Smith astonished her fellow swimmers in Atlanta





REBECCA NADEN

Smith this week with coach and husband Erik de Bruin

Michelle Smith could be excused for feeling resentful. The Irish swimmer won three gold medals at the 1996 Olympics. This week she has already taken two golds and a silver in the first three days of the European Championships in Seville. Yet she is denied credit for being the world's outstanding female swimmer.

In few other walks of life would somebody who is dominating their chosen activity not receive universal acclaim. But *this week many of the public,* coaches and fellow swimmers *left the* pool area as Smith received her gold medals. She *stood on the podium,* grasping the Irish flag, with a sad smile on her face. The slight was obvious and she knew why. She had seen it all before in Atlanta last year.

Her improvement since 1992 has astonished her sport. Five years ago, in the 400 metres individual medley, she was ranked 115th in the world. In *1996, she was first. Her rise in* the rankings came between *the ages of 22 and 26* — when a swimmer is believed to be incapable of such dramatic improvement.

The rumours started in 1995 but reached a wider audience last year when Janet Evans, the American winner of four Olympic titles, referred to "speculation out there *on the deck*" that Smith's improve*ment was partly due to drug*-taking. The Irishwoman, often under fierce questioning, *has* repeatedly denied the charges and pointed to the frequency with which she has been called to doping control. The faster she has swum, the more often she has been tested — 18 times, she says, in the past two years.

Smith was defiant in Atlanta and, *competing under her* married name of de Bruin, has *been defiant in Seville.* "*I am* very, very proud of what I have done," she says. "*I do not* accept that I am damned if I do win and damned if I do not. I have never felt like I wanted to quit. Swimming is my life."

But the smears have damaged her reputation and divided her country. The first Irishwoman to win an Olympic title in any sport could have expected to have been *acclaimed at home. Instead,* Jim McDaid, the Irish Sports *Minister,* announced *this* week that he would not be at Dublin aiport to mark her return next week. After a storm of criticism, Mr McDaid found himself helped out of a tricky situation by none other than Smith herself. She said yesterday that she did *not regard his decision* as a snub and invited the minister *to a party being thrown in her* honour near Dublin Airport on Monday. According to Irish Radio, he has accepted.

While Amy Van Dyken, the personable American who took two gold medals at the 1996 Olympics, became a millionairess through sponsorship and endorsements, Smith has struggled financially. The *mud thrown at her has stuck.* Companies have been too *worried by the smears to* choose even such an intelligent and presentable figure as Smith as a figurehead for their products — she has appeared in just one shampoo commercial.

Those who question her times give several reasons. Her husband and coach is Erik de Bruin, a former Dutch *international athlete. He insists* that her improvement *since he took over her training* in 1993 is because she began *heavy weight-training and has* had more rest periods. De Bruin, a shot-putter and discus-thrower, was banned from athletics for four years in 1993. He was found positive for an unacceptably high level of testosterone. At the time he told a Dutch newspaper: "Who says doping is unethical? Who decides what is *ethical? Sport is by definition* dishonest. Some people are *naturally gifted. Some people* are not going to make it without extra help."

Insiders know that there are ways to beat the testers. As more and more sports, such as athletics and rugby union, weight-lifting and American football, suffer positive tests, so the techniques for avoiding detection filter down through *gyms and sports centres. Sir* Arthur Gold, a long-time cru*sader against drug abuse and* President of the Amateur Ath*letic* Association of England, once remarked that testing caught only "the careless or the ill-advised".

Hormone drugs, such as anabolic steroids, are used in training to help the competitor recover from intensive exercise. All traces will have usually disappeared from the body if the athlete stops taking the drugs several days before the event. However, most of the *benefits remain. This is why* out-of-competition testing is so *important.*

In February this year, *The Times* disclosed that Smith had been unavailable to international testers when they called at her home on October 13, 1996. She was in the United States but had not informed Fina, swimming's world governing body of her whereabouts. As a swimmer ranked in the world's top 50, she must do this. *The Times* also learnt *that Smith* was "unattainable" to Fina testers during "the first *three quarters of 1995". By not* complying strictly with the *regulations of the governing* body, she immediately brought suspicion on herself.

Even if a competitor is available for an out-of-competition test, detection can be difficult. One rumoured method is to use a catheter of untainted urine just before a drugs test. Females insert the untainted urine into the vagi*na, males into the penis.*

There are also drugs which can *help individuals to train* harder but for which there are not yet any foolproof tests. One drug that Ben Johnson, the Canadian sprinter, admitted using in his preparation before finishing first at the 1988 Olympics was human growth hormone (HGH).

"It is certainly *the most* misused drug in sport," says *Jacques Rogge,* a leading member of the IOC medical *commmision.*

The main problem in detecting the artificial presence of HGH is that not only does the hormone exist naturally in the body but the stress of competition increases its levels.

Another substance, which is being promoted in magazines and on *the Internet to stimulate mus*cle growth, is insulin, the *diabetes drug. It is not* a prohibited substance and there is no internationally accepted test for its detection.

There is no suggestion that Michelle Smith has used either these drugs or the methods of avoiding detection, but the fact they have been employed by other competitors has shown that the current *system of drug detection is not* foolproof. She has been tainted *in part by the fact that people* know that there are loopholes in testing. *If there were not,* she might be acclaimed as one of history's greats.

Additional reporting: Craig Lord.

☐ Smith has pulled out of today's 200 metres individual medley in Seville because she is tired. She still plans to *defend her 200 metres butter*fly title on Sunday.

Seville, page 45

COMEBACK THAT LEFT THE WORLD STANDING

MICHELLE SMITH is not the first female Olympic champion to be tarnished by unsubstantiated innuendos about alleged drug-taking after a sudden improvement late in her career. At the age of 28, Florence Griffith-Joyner, the American athlete, *enjoyed an extraordinary year* in 1988. She set world track records for the *100 and 200 metres, which still stand,* and collected four Olympic medals in Seoul, including three gold.

"Flojo" had finished second in the 200 metres at the 1984 Olympics but had drifted away from athletics in 1986. Nobody expected her to return so impressively to sprinting in 1987 and particularly in 1988, when she cut half a second off her best 100-metres time and even more than that over 200 metres.

Yet her improvement, credited to ferocious training, was disbelieved by such American contemporaries as *Carl Lewis, who insinuated that she* had used performance-enhancing *substances. She has always denied* taking drugs.

Unlike Smith, Griffith-Joyner retired after winning her Olympic titles. She was not as successful commercially as she should have been, and had to wait seven years to be inducted in the American Hall of Fame.

Seoul 1988: Flojo wins the 100m

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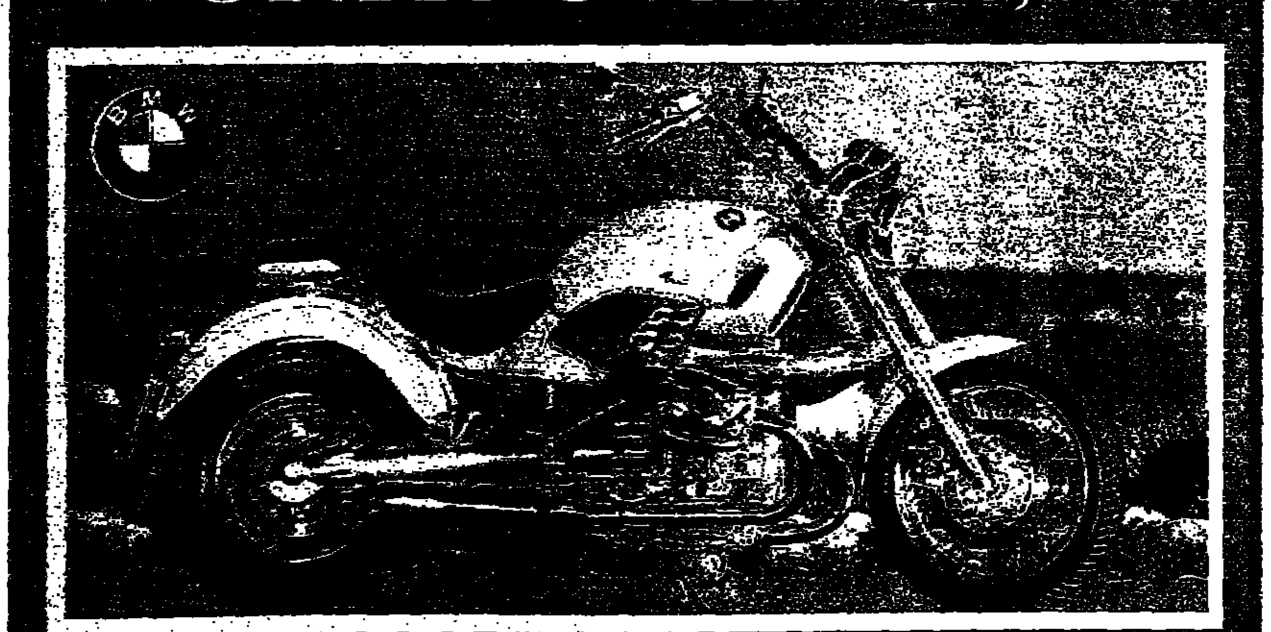

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JFK Jr gets it wrong

TUNKU VARADARAJAN'S

NEW YORK

NEW YORK is a dense forest of words, where people often talk too much and frequently write more than is necessary. It is apt, therefore, that the city should be the home of *George*, America's most vacuous "political" magazine.

George: an unread vanity vehicle

Published monthly, *George* is the vanity vehicle of President Kennedy's son, John F. Kennedy Jr. Started in October 1995, it is best known as the magazine no one reads but in which absolutely everyone advertises. Its publishers, who also bring out *Elle*, offer cut-price space in the feisty fashion magazine to those who place ads in the dud Mr Kennedy edits.

George is not even found, dog-eared and dented, in barber-shops or at a manicurist's. "*George*!" my barber, Mr Gomez, exclaimed. "For $2.95 [£1.84] I'd rather buy a large hot dog." Mr Gomez is right. His hot dog would have much more meat and, surely, heaps more mustard.

Perhaps aware his pet was becoming an embarrassment, Mr Kennedy decided this month to give it a tweak. Unwisely, he put a naked picture of the model Kate Moss on the cover, shot in unflattering *chiaroscuro*. He also wrote an essay on the transgressions of some cousins. I will, this once, mangle my metaphors: he attempted to rap them on the knuckles but succeeded only in shooting himself in the foot. The calamitous error reaped ridicule from respectable commentators across America, including even the leader writers of *The New York Times*, who have tended to treat the Kennedys with an almost gormless admiration. An aperçu from the "Dear Diary" genre, there are lines in the piece that should haunt their author forever.

Referring, among other things, to Cousin Joseph's divorce and Cousin Michael's alleged fornication with an underage babysitter, he writes: "Two members of my family chased an idealised alternative to their life. One left behind an embittered wife ... fell in love with youth and surrendered his judgment ... Both became poster boys for bad behaviour. Perhaps they deserved it. Perhaps they should have known better. To whom much is given, much is expected, right?"

Mr Kennedy's little essay is the intellectual "Chappaquiddick" of the Kennedy clan. And the river, this time, runs full with ink from a foolish writer's pen.

Field day for the Lennonists

EVEN though a particularly ghoulish murder took place there in June (when a kindly middle-aged tippler was stabbed to death, allegedly by two drug-smitten 14-year-olds), Strawberry Fields in Central Park is one of New York's most heavily trodden tourist sites.

A gentle teardrop-shaped garden, Strawberry Fields was created in 1985 in memory of the murdered John Lennon. Named after the Beatles' song, it was funded by a gift of $1 million (£625,000) from Yoko Ono, Lennon's gnomic Japanese widow.

Two-and-a-half acres in size, it receives more than 2,000 visitors a day, a number exceeded only by the Statue of Liberty among New York's open-air tourist attractions.

More than a shrine to Lennon, however, the garden is now the best place in the city to observe oddballs in action.

A casual visitor can hope to find weeping "peaceniks": starry-eyed Lennonists who kneel and kiss the turf; and small knots of distraught fans who wander dazedly whispering "O John, O John" to themselves. There are also some meditators and levitators, but no Lennon lookalikes.

In the week after Elvis Presley's 20th death anniversary, that is a serious mercy indeed.

Yoko with Lennon, whose memorial is now a top attraction

Cowboy apprentice has to bite surgical dust

DO you want a cut-price "nose job" or a bargain basement "tummy tuck"? Then make your way to the city's Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Centre. The place, it seems, is a medical Wild West, with cowboy surgeons offering "under the counter" plastic surgery for a smaller fee than would be levied if the vanity-op were done strictly by the book.

It was reported this week that the hospital authorities have suspended an uncertified resident surgeon (an apprentice, in other words) for performing cosmetic surgery on a fattish female abdomen. He did it in a side room, after hours and unsupervised.

The case, described as probably one of many, came to light after the patient developed post-operative complications. She lived, of course, but the resident was sacked. The hospital's spokesmen, naturally, have their lips sealed — or are they stitched together?

The hospital issued a terse and somewhat chilling statement, saying: "A resident in the division of plastic surgery performed a surgical procedure in an unauthorised location on a patient without appropriate supervision. The resident has been terminated."

He has been named as James Brady, in his fifth year of surgery training.

The appeal of virtual cricket

IF THERE is one thing that denies New York the status of the world's greatest city it is the absence of cricket. For all their heavenliness, bagels, cheesecake, louche "gentlemen's clubs" and the Chrysler Building do not quite compensate for the city's heartbreaking cricketlessness.

Imagine my delight, therefore, when Lord's decided this week to begin broadcasting *Test Match Special* on its Internet website (http//lords.msn.com).

To hear the BBC's Henry Blofeld giving ball-by-ball commentary in the Big Apple is like sweet manna from cyberspace. An Englishman who has lived in New York for 20 years told me: "It's a dashed shame they didn't have this Internet business before. I'd have loved to hear John Arlott crackle at me across the Atlantic."

Test Match Special on the Internet should help expatriate Englishmen in New York to banish for ever those homesick blues. Good draught bitter is now widely available, as is Marmite and stilton. Cricket now completes the cultural jigsaw puzzle.

Since the older Brits here tend not to be "on line", they will no doubt start to frequent some of New York's many cybercafés, where, on payment of a few dollars, one can sip coffee and log on to the Internet.

Trooper 'offered bribe in Britain' over Whitewater

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

SCOTT APPLEWHITE / AP

Kenneth Starr: he has been asked by the state trooper's lawyer whether evidence of a bribe would be of interest

A FORMER Arkansas state trooper was at the centre of potentially explosive allegations yesterday, claiming that he was accosted on a coach to Heathrow and offered a $100,000 (£63,000) bribe and a job to ensure that he gave favourable evidence in the Whitewater case against President Clinton.

L.D. Brown, who worked on Mr Clinton's personal security squad when he was Governor of Arkansas, has told Kenneth Starr, the Whitewater prosecutor, that he is prepared to give evidence about the clandestine meeting, which he says took place in June on a road outside Leicester. In a letter sent to Mr Starr, with a copy to the White House, Miami-based John Thompson, Mr Brown's lawyer, asks the independent prosecutor whether evidence of the bribe would be of interest.

"I should like to inform you that he wishes to provide you with sworn testimony that he was been approached by individuals with connections to the Clinton Administration offering him a large sum of money to influence his testimony about Bill Clinton's illegal activities," the letter says. "This would be witness tampering, would it not?"

Friends and other lawyers confirmed details of the meeting, in which the coach was flagged down by a taxi whose passenger had then boarded the coach and immediately sat next to Mr Brown.

After discussing the former trooper's connection with Mr Clinton at length, the man offered him the money and said that, if he contacted a member of the National Security Council in Washington, he would be offered a job in Moscow. Mr Brown is a fluent Russian speaker.

A second offer was made in a subsequent call to Mr Brown in Little Rock before he decided to reveal the attempts to change his evidence.

A former president of the Arkansas State Police Association, Mr Brown once considered himself a very close Clinton confidant. He has said that he was recruited by the CIA in 1984, with Mr Clinton's encouragement, and flew on two missions to Central America to deliver M16 rifles to the Nicaraguan Contras.

On one return trip he discovered the aircraft was carrying cocaine into Mena Airfield in Arkansas. He says that when he confronted the Governor, Mr Clinton told him not to worry.

Mr Brown has since emerged as a key figure in the Whitewater affair, corroborating claims by others that Mr Clinton had pressed an Arkansas businessman to make an illegal $300,000 loan to Susan McDougal, one of the Clintons' partners in the failed land deal.

The trooper has also alleged that, between 1983 and 1985, he tried to solicit "over a hundred" sexual partners for the Arkansas Governor.

The timing of his latest claim will bring little joy to the President as he finishes the first week of a family holiday at Martha's Vineyard. It coincided with a meeting of lawyers in the highly embarrassing sexual harassment case brought against the President by Paula Jones, the former Arkansas state employee who is seeking $700,000 in damages, alleging that Mr Clinton asked her to perform a sexual act at a Little Rock hotel.

The White House offered no response yesterday to Mr Brown's allegation of witness tampering. In the past, Clinton aides erroneously said state records showed he was a "pathological liar", even though his employee file in Arkansas was packed with recommendations, many from Mr Clinton himself.

There have been previous suggestions of incentives being offered to prevent Mr Clinton's record as Governor from becoming public. In 1994, Betsey Wright, his chief of staff in Arkansas, returned to the Governor's mansion in Little Rock, apparently to discourage Danny Ferguson, another state trooper, from disclosing seamier details about life inside the house during Mr Clinton's tenure.

Shortly after the visit, Mr Ferguson's lawyers issued a statement denying that the President had offered any inducement for silence, but Mr Ferguson subsequently contradicted them.

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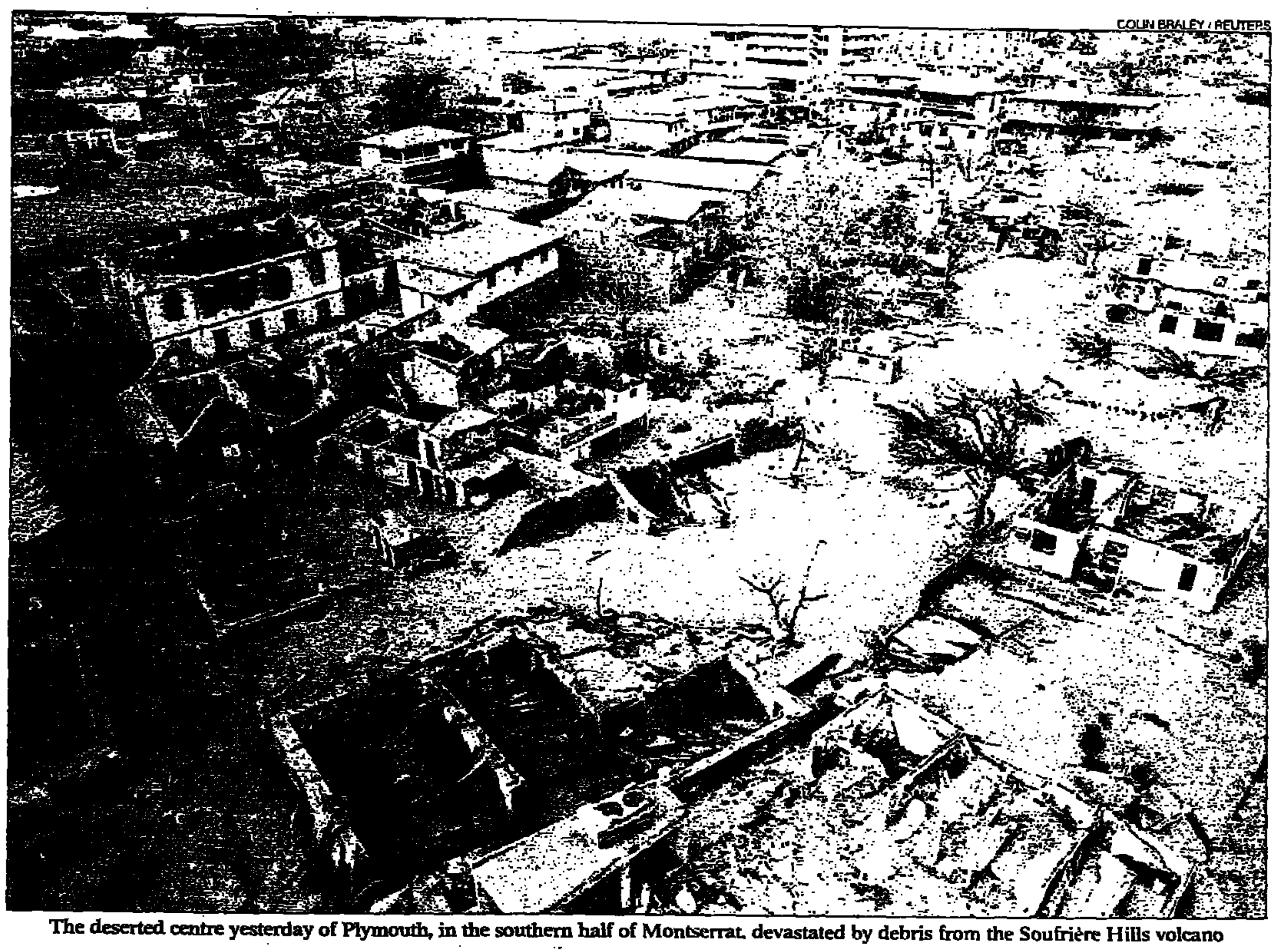
COLIN BRALEY / REUTERS

The deserted centre yesterday of Plymouth, in the southern half of Montserrat, devastated by debris from the Soufrière Hills volcano

Volcano island erupts in protest at exodus plan

David Adams in Montserrat and Michael Evans report on the political fallout in the wake of the British compensation package to move the islanders

A BRITISH-FINANCED plan to evacuate voluntarily those wishing to leave the volcanic island of Montserrat appeared to be in jeopardy last night as politicians, backed by demonstrators, rejected a resettlement package offered by London.

After the head of the island government, Bertrand Osborne, resigned on Thursday, local politicians condemned the financial package as "woefully inadequate". As he stepped down, Mr Osborne lashed out at Britain's financial offer, describing it as totally unacceptable. His widely tipped successor, David Brandt, a solicitor and independent member of parliament, was no less unflattering.

He told protesters: "You, the people, are right. I believe the British are doing everything they can to separate us so that they can do whatever they want." To cheers, he added: "I want you to tell the British that they can take their money and do whatever they want with it." The British Governor, Frank Savage, has appealed for Montserratians to "rally round" in these difficult times. He said he understood that the protests were "a natural expression of people's frustrations — pent up over two years. The final turn of the screw of the volcano has just proved too much for us".

Mr Savage called on demonstrators to keep their protests from going beyond the law. "It sends a wrong signal. It's not our way in Montserrat." He was referring to almost daily street protests this week by Montserratians upset by the way the volcano crisis is being handled, by both Britain and the island government. An angry clash on the streets of Salem on Thursday came the closest so far to bloodshed when a dozen riot police confronted a group of 30 youths shouting anti-British insults. The demonstration turned ugly when Montserrat police beat protesters with batons while detaining four people.

"I don't want to leave Montserrat. I just want a house to live in and some respect," said Joseph Fagan, a local port authority worker and one of the protest leaders. "I have nowhere to go and the refugee shelters are full."

"We would like to stay. All we are asking for is some hope to deal with what we are facing over there," said Stedroy Brade, another protester.

Last night George Foulkes, Minister for International Development, was involved in a clash with one of the chief volcano experts in Montserrat after he was accused by the island's scientists of making misleading statements about the possibility of an imminent "cataclysmic" eruption. Mr Foulkes went on the defensive after a senior scientist monitoring the volcano claimed he had misread a report sent to the Government a week ago.

Stephen Sparks, Professor of Geology at Bristol University and chief scientist in post at the Montserrat volcano observatory, said: "When a Government minister dramatises something of this nature, it is a serious matter."

Professor Sparks said the report mentioned the word "cataclysmic" only in a section which examined whether there was any risk of an eruption between 1,000 and 10,000 times bigger than the worst eruption ever seen on the Caribbean island.

WORLD SUMMARY

Cigarette boss admits cancer link

West Palm Beach: The chairman of R.J.R. Nabisco, the maker of Winston and Camel cigarettes, said yesterday he believes smoking plays a part in causing lung cancer.

The remark by Steven Goldstone was made during a $12.3 billion (£7.6 billion) lawsuit by Florida against the tobacco industry. Earlier in the case Geoffrey Bible, chairman of Philip Morris, became the first executive to acknowledge a possible link between smoking and death. *(AP)*

Spy suspect held

Beijing: A man who spent 32 years in jail for spying for Taiwan has been arrested again by China's anti-espionage authorities. Xiao Tongzhi was released on parole in 1982. *(Reuters)*

Forgotten victims

Grenoble: The French town of Voiron is to honour 16 Jewish children sent in 1944 to Nazi death camps from a nearby hamlet after a researcher's findings ended its silence over their fate. *(Reuters)*

Typhoon deluge

Hong Kong: Record rains turned many Hong Kong streets into rivers, submerged shops and restaurants and caused landslips as Typhoon Zita brushed past the territory. *(Reuters)*

Winnie called

Cape Town: South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission said that it had subpoenaed President Mandela's former wife Winnie to give evidence about suspected human rights crimes. *(Reuters)*

Burgers run out

Columbus, Nebraska: Hundreds of US Burger King restaurants ran out of hamburgers after Hudson Foods closed a plant and recalled 25 million lb of possibly tainted beef *(AP)*.

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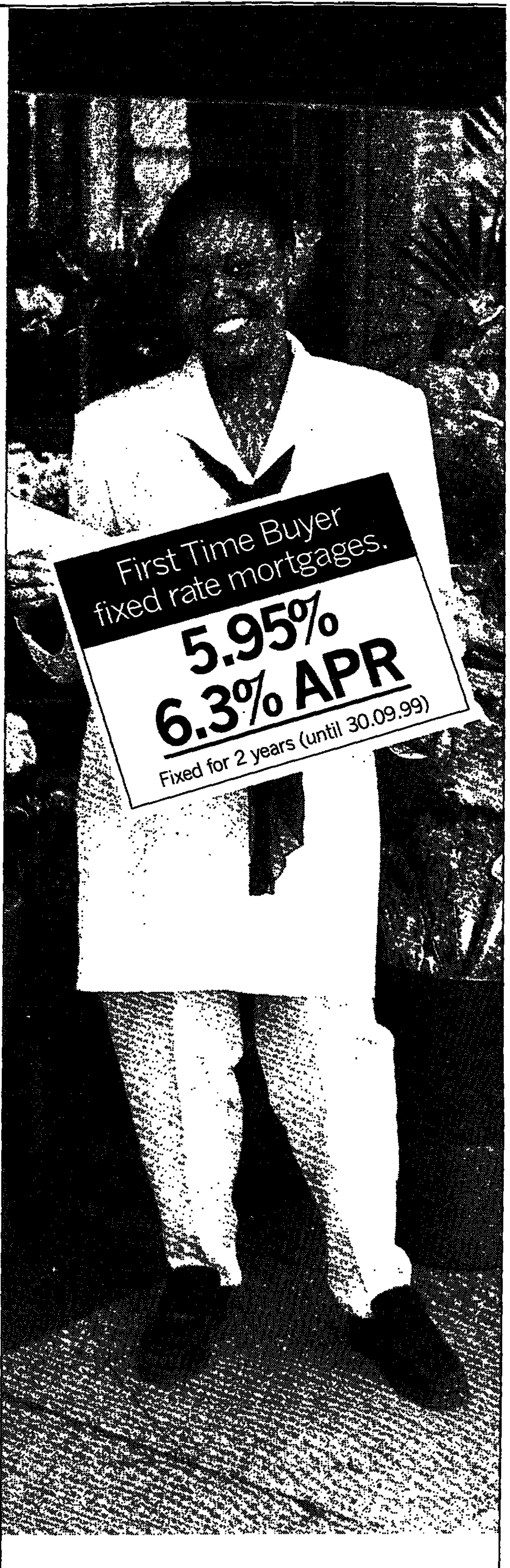
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هكذا امن الاهل،

Space walkers' repairs put Mir back to work

From Richard Beeston in Korolev

TWO Russian cosmonauts completed a harrowing repair mission in space yesterday, which promised to give the crippled Mir space station a new lease of life and to rescue Russia's space programme.

After false starts and delays, Anatoli Solovyov and Pavel Vinogradov embarked on a four-hour operation to reconnect vital cables severed from a damaged module, thereby transforming Mir back to a fully functional scientific research station.

The Spektr module had to be evacuated in June after it was punctured during a collision with a *Progress* supply ship. Sealing off Spektr meant that its solar panels could no longer supply electricity to Mir, which has since been operating on half power.

In an operation that had never been tried in space before, Mr Vinogradov, the flight engineer, entered the cramped, dark, airless Spektr module to reconnect 11 cables and try to find the hole caused in the collision.

Although on paper the manoeuvre might appear routine, the cosmonaut, 43, ran a real risk of a fatal accident if he had torn or damaged his spacesuit. Mr Vinogradov, a space novice who had an attack of nerves on his flight up to Mir, had spent hours simluating the operation on a Mir model in a water tank near Moscow. The rehearsals paid off: he completed the rewiring in two hours, even allowing himself to joke and banter with Mission Control and his fellow crew members.

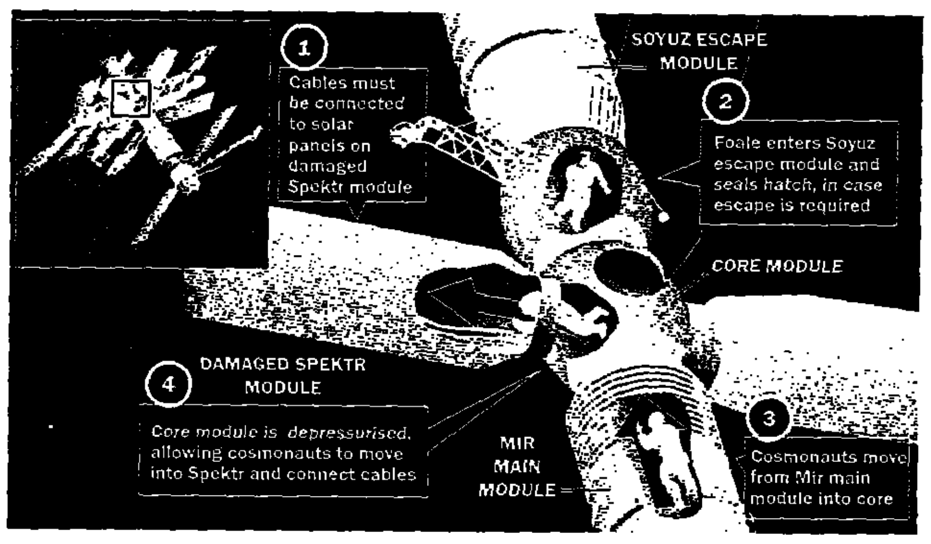
At one point he spotted what looked like floating crystals in the module. Then Michael Foale, the British-born Nasa astronaut who sat out the repair mission in a *Soyuz* escape vehicle, told him that it was only his "shampoo" abandoned in haste when he evacuated Spektr two months ago.

At Mission Control in Korolyov, outside Moscow, the relaxed atmosphere by day's end was in contrast to the mood a few hours earlier. First a leaking hatch threatened to abort the mission, then Mr Vinogradov reported his glove was leaking and would need to be replaced.

With the job done, Russian officials estimate that the space station should be back to about 90 per cent power capacity. That in turn should resolve many of the other power-related problems recently suffered in the orbiter. The repair mission is not over yet, however. The cosmonauts may have to make a further five space walks in order to find and repair the damage to the Spektr module.

The successful completion of yesterday's repairs appeared to have been anticipated by President Yeltsin, who only hours before the operation addressed the nation about the importance of sustaining Russia's space programme. He said that only America and Russia were capable of maintaining a sophisticated aerospace industry and he promised that further government funding would be available next year.

He ended: "The time will come again when our boys will dream of flying a plane and girls will dream of the same and of marrying a pilot or a cosmonaut."


①
Cables must be connected to solar panels on damaged Spektr module
SOYUZ ESCAPE MODULE
②
Foale enters Soyuz escape module and seals hatch, in case escape is required
CORE MODULE
④
DAMAGED SPEKTR MODULE
Core module is depressurised, allowing cosmonauts to move into Spektr and connect cables
MIR MAIN MODULE
③
Cosmonauts move from Mir main module into core

PAOLO COCCO / REUTERS

The Pope in Notre Dame cathedral for the beatification of Frédéric Ozanam

Pope defies critics to visit anti-abortionist's grave

From Agence France-Presse in Paris

THE POPE celebrated Mass in Notre Dame cathedral yesterday and beatified a 19th-century French thinker who inspired today's Christian Democrats.

The 77-year-old pontiff, who began a four-day visit to France on Thursday, also defied liberal critics of his stance on abortion by visiting the grave of a noted anti-abortion campaigner.

About 300 bishops from all over the world, together with an estimated 2,500 worshippers crowded into the cathedral for the beatification of Frédéric Ozanam — and the first time the ceremony has been held in the French capital. Until 1984 beatifications — the last step before canonisation or sainthood in the Catholic rite — were carried out only in Rome.

Ozanam, a professor at the Sorbonne in Paris who died in 1853, was one of the founders of the St Vincent de Paul Society, a charity which now has nearly 900,000 members in 130 countries.

After the service, the Pope flew by helicopter to the village of Chalo-St-Mars to visit the grave of Jérôme Lejeune — a visit denounced by the French Family Planning Movement as a "provocation against women and families" and criticised by France's ruling Socialist Party.

In a statement, the party of the Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, said: "The significance of this move can only create bad feeling and risks encouraging in our country those who are waging a battle marked by intolerance."

Lejeune, described by the Pope as a close friend, founded the French anti-abortion group Laissez Les Vivre [Let Them Live]. He died in 1994, aged 68.

Times quoted in Singapore damages call

From Chris Lydgate in Singapore

THE politically charged defamation suit against Singapore's most prominent opposition politican, J. B. "Ben" Jeyaretnam, ended its first phase yesterday with counsel for Goh Chok Tong, the Prime Minister, asking for S$200,000 (£84,000) in damages.

Summarising the Prime Minister's case, Thomas Shields QC said that he sought additional damages because of the way that Mr Jayaretnam's defence had been conducted. George Carman QC, Mr Jeyaretnam's lawyer, has suggested the case was intended to bankrupt his client, so removing him from parliament. He had also pursued a withering cross-examination of the Prime Minister, probing fundamental issues about the functioning of democracy in Singapore.

Quoting both *The Times* — "QC speaks of climate of fear in Singapore" — and the *International Herald Tribune* — "Goh's motives questioned in Singapore case" — Mr Shields said that the defence had tried to turn the case into "a sort of show trial", attacking the Prime Minister's credibility.

Mr Jeyaretnam, 71, is facing eight libel suits filed by 11 top members of Singapore's ruling People's Action Party, including Mr Goh and Lee Kuan Yew, the Senior Minister, who was Mr Goh's predecessor.

The suits were triggered by a remark Mr Jeyaretnam made at the last Workers' Party rally before the January election, when he told the crowd he had just been handed two police reports filed against PAP leaders by Tang Liang Hong, a party colleague. In court, Mr Goh likened that announcement to a "Molotov cocktail" lobbed in his direction.

Singapore newspapers had given lavish coverage to the police reports, in which Mr Tang accused PAP leaders of deliberately lying about his beliefs and painting him as an "anti-Christian Chinese chauvinist" — a damaging charge in an island nation constantly engaged in a delicate ethnic and religious balancing act.

Mr Carman said Mr Shields's line of reasoning was an "astonishing argument" which implied that the media could not report on legitimate public events. He appealed to the High Court to "look behind the libel game" at the true motivation for the litigation, and to limit any damages to a single dollar.

The case has generated considerable interest both internationally and in Singapore. *The Straits Times*, the island's leading morning newspaper, has carried reports on several pages every day and, while the coverage has certainly been more favourable to the PAP leaders than reports from foreign journalists, most of the issues raised by Mr Carman have been faithfully covered, albeit usually in the back pages.

> ‘The defence has tried to turn the case into a sort of show trial’

Mr Justice S. Rajendran said that he did not expect to issue a judgment in the case until next month.

The other ten plaintiffs, all top PAP members, have agreed to be bound by Mr Justice Rajendran's decision in the Prime Minister's case. Damages, if any, will be on a case-by-case basis.

The plaintiffs have already been awarded a total of S$5.6 million in damages against Mr Tang for allegations by him, including those contained in the police reports mentioned by Mr Jeyaretnam at the rally.

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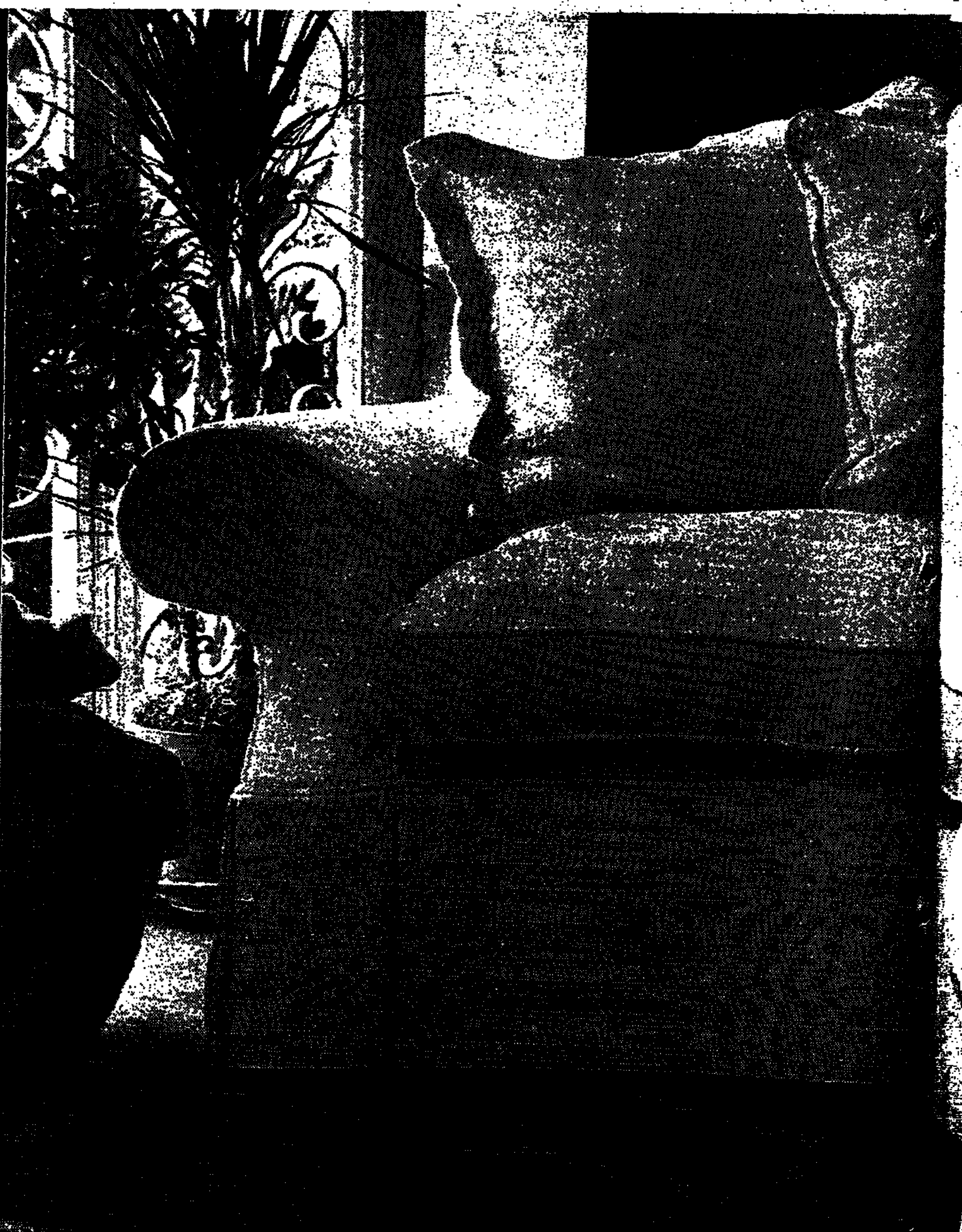

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هكذا من الاصل

Snow's lovechild leaves France cold

A broadcaster's love story titillated Britain but the French are used to celebrities' affairs, writes **Kate Muir** in Paris

BBC

Peter Snow meets his son, Matthieu, 33 years after a liaison with a French journalist while cruising on the Nile

PETER SNOW'S discovery of his long-lost son from a dalliance 33 years ago with a Frenchwoman provoked passion in the British press, but in Paris the story raised just a shrug.

For here such behaviour is not merely approved but expected of the famous. Increasingly, an illegitimate child with a mysterious father is one of the best accessories around. Despite the moral crusade surrounding the Pope's visit to Paris this weekend, the reality is that many of France's actresses, television presenters and politicians consider conceiving a child in wedlock rather dull, preferring DNA from a dashing donor who may, or may not, remain on the scene afterwards.

This month President Chirac endorsed more lax morals by being pictured on the front cover of *Paris Match* romping on the beach with his daughter, Claude, and illegitimate baby grandson, Martin Chirac. The child's father, a television producer, was well out of the picture.

Thus the story of Mr Snow's surprise "Hello Dad" phone call from the son he never knew he had was considered rather mundane here. Jacques Colin, an editor at the *Hello!*-style magazine *Voici*, could not have been less impressed with the "Peter Snow: I Have Secret Son, Swingometer Star Confesses" headline from the *Mirror*. "This was a front-page story in Britain? Why? It certainly wouldn't have been a scandal here." The former *Newsnight* presenter had an affair on a Nile cruise in 1964 with a French journalist named Sabine, producing a son, Matthieu, long before both his marriages. Sabine — her surname has not been revealed — kept her pregnancy secret and married a French lawyer, who brought up Matthieu as his own child.

All a common occurrence here, even among news presenters. Christine Ockrent has never married her son's father, Bernard Kouchner, the Health Minister; Claire Chazal, who presents the news on TF1, became a single mother two years ago, and while it was rumoured the father of her son was a male co-presenter on TF1, everyone was polite enough not to inquire. "Making a child is a proof of love. I want to protect my family and those I love," said Mme Chazal cryptically.

> ‘Café society considers a man who has a child out of wedlock a superman’

"These are delicate matters," said M Colin, whose magazine treads a fine Gallic line between public and private life. "What we publish depends on the attitude of the mother and the father. If the father does not want to be named, we usually accept that, unless, say, there is a paternity case brought by the mother."

M Colin said there was no question of the press judging such behaviour. "The French do not feel they have to say 'bravo' for every natural child, but nor are they shocked. Indeed, café conversation tends to consider a man who produces a child out of wedlock something of a superman."

There is a combination here of a peculiarly Catholic welcoming of the child when it is born, whatever the history beforehand, coupled with remaining respect for *la vie privée*, rendering certain personal questions vulgar. Incursions by the media into private life are often invited: take the pictures of Mazarine, the late President Mitterrand's illegitimate daughter, again in *Paris Match*.

Biographers said the President, knowing he had terminal cancer, wanted to reveal his daughter to the world before his death. Of course, most French journalists and politicians knew of Mazarine, but the secret was easily kept as a dinner-party rumour for almost 20 years. The term *bâtard* — bastard — is rarely heard now, reduced from an insult to a banality. The numbers of unmarried mothers are on the increase in France: 40 per cent now, compared to 12 per cent 15 years ago. In Britain, 35 per cent of mothers are unmarried.

The demographer Hervé Le Bras, of L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes, says: "It was not so long ago that pupils pointed fingers at the children of divorced parents, and sadistic teachers mocked them. Today having divorced parents is completely ordinary, and the same attitude increasingly applies to illegitimacy."

The trail blazers on the single-mother scene here are French actresses, who produce illegitimate children almost as often as films. Isabelle Adjani, Emmanuelle Béart and Sophie Marceau each have two children, by a wide variety of fathers, and mostly live alone. Cathérine Deneuve led the way years before with her illegitimate daughter Chiarra Mastroianni.

Although Mme Adjani has one older son, Barnabé, when she produced another with the disappearing (and later married) Daniel Day Lewis, she was pictured on the cover of various magazines with *L'Homme de ma Vie* — the man in my life — her new baby, Gabriel-Kane.

The father's name was mentioned, but his role was not discussed.

The closest French interviewers get to pinning down the dad is asking actresses: *Vous êtes radiante. C'est l'amour?* Of course it is love, answer the radiant actresses, but never reveal their sources.

There is even a (bad French) pop song about single mothers by Jean-Jacques Goldman which became almost a battle anthem in the 1980s: "*Elle a fait un bébé toute seule*" (She made a baby alone).

It is a social trend which has benefited Mr Snow, who could not be more delighted about gaining a sixth child, and two grandchildren. "It is a lovely story and I feel very happy," he said.

Japanese to tackle gas bomb legacy

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPANESE officials are struggling to cope with a nightmarish wartime legacy — hundreds of thousands of poison gas shells left in China by its Imperial Army. Many of them are leaking, causing death and injury.

When Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, visits Beijing next month he is expected to assure Chinese leaders that Japan is committed to disposing of the weapons within ten years. But experts say it lacks the know-how to handle the operation, and is unlikely to meet the deadline, even with experienced personnel hired in Britain, Germany and America.

The weapons — mustard gas, lewisite and pepper bombs — were brought to China in the 1930s when the Japanese Imperial Army occupied vast areas of the country's northeast. Japanese forces, in breach of international law, used chemical weapons more than 2,000 times during the Sino-Japanese war of 1937-1945. Last year a Japanese government team visiting Jilin province confirmed there were an estimated 700,000 chemical weapons there.

Negotiations foundered on Beijing's demand that Tokyo take the shells to neutralise them in Japan in accordance with the 1993 Chemical Weapons Convention, which obliges signatories to remove all chemical weapons left in other countries.

Japanese officials rejected the idea, knowing communities in Japan would bitterly oppose the building of a disposal plant. Beijing relented in December, but the two nations have failed to agree on a Chinese location for the plant and its technology.

Professor Tsuneichi, a leading authority on the Imperial Army's chemical and germ warfare programmes, said: "The whole operation could take 100 years or more."

Leading article, page 19

Fashion-conscious tourists trek to Versace tomb

Versace: ashes guarded

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

THE tomb of Gianni Versace, the fashion designer murdered in Miami five weeks ago, is becoming an increasingly popular if ghoulish destination on the Italian tourist itinerary.

After exploring the more traditional attractions of the great villas and gardens, hundreds of visitors to Lake Como, near the Swiss border, are making for the small village cemetery where Versace's ashes are kept.

"We are getting to the point where we are under pressure to include Versace's tomb as a highlight of our advertised tour programmes," one Italian tour operator told *Corriere della Sera*. He said the small cemetery at Moltrasio was under siege every day from a growing number of tourists. "Most are German and Japanese, but we also get French, English and, of course, Italian sightseers turning up," one of the cemetery guards said.

The tomb is protected by electronic alarms and security guards, both paid for by Versace's brother and sister. It has been under guard 24 hours a day after an attempt this month by a lone thief to steal the urn containing the late designer's ashes.

The robber used a chisel to cut through the heavy chain on the tomb door, but set off an electronic alarm before he could seize the urn. He ran off. A man, 48, from Udine has confessed to the police, saying that he carried out the attack at the behest of Albanian criminals who had intended to demand a ransom from the Versace family for the return of the ashes.

The designer was murdered outside his mansion at Miami South Beach on July 15 by Andrew Cunanan, the alleged homosexual serial killer who was himself found dead a few days later.

In Florida yesterday, the *Sun-Sentinel* of Fort Lauderdale reported that only one of two bullets that killed Versace entered at the back of his head, not both as first thought. That means that possibly he saw his killer as he was shot.

☐ **Jail for vandal:** The ringleader of a group of three unemployed men who vandalised a Bernini fountain in Rome was sentenced to three months in prison yesterday and ordered to pay costs and damages, although it is not clear how he will pay.

Sebastiano Intili, 43, said he would appeal and his defence lawyers said they would counter-sue for "moral and material damages" because Intili hurt his foot while trying to dive from the back of a sea monster in the Fountain of the Four Rivers in Piazza Navona. His two co-defendants were acquitted.

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Top crime novelist in Russia hates violence and leaves her police uniform in the wardrobe

Marina's literary killing

MOSCOW FILE

by RICHARD BEESTON

LIKE the heroine in her best-selling books, Lieutenant-Colonel Marina Alekseyeva seems at first glance out of place in the male-dominated world of Russian law enforcement.

She does not carry a gun, hates violence and leaves her grey police uniform hanging in the office wardrobe, to be brought out on ceremonial occasions. However, any thought that she does not know her way around the complex workings of crime and punishment in modern Russia will be quickly dispelled by dipping into any of 18 detective novels or by watching her walk to work at the Interior Ministry Academy, where young police cadets snap briskly to attention before her.

This summer Colonel Alekseyeva's thrillers, written under the pseudonym Aleksandra Marinina, have dominated the best-seller list, at one point in July hogging six places among the Top Ten hardback fiction titles and five places in the paperback list, with a total of six million copies sold.

"To be honest, after working for 15 years in the police force, crime reports leave me bored stiff," said the writer, who co-authored her first book to help a friend and has never looked back. "What interests me, what brings my novels alive, are the emotions and passions of the criminal mind." Certainly her heroine Nastya Kamenskaya is no supercop, just a middle-ranking criminal analyst in the homicide department of Moscow's main Petrovka police station — a character, the author admits, is based loosely on herself. Part of her success is her ability to accurately reflect the blurred dividing line between good and bad in modern Russia.

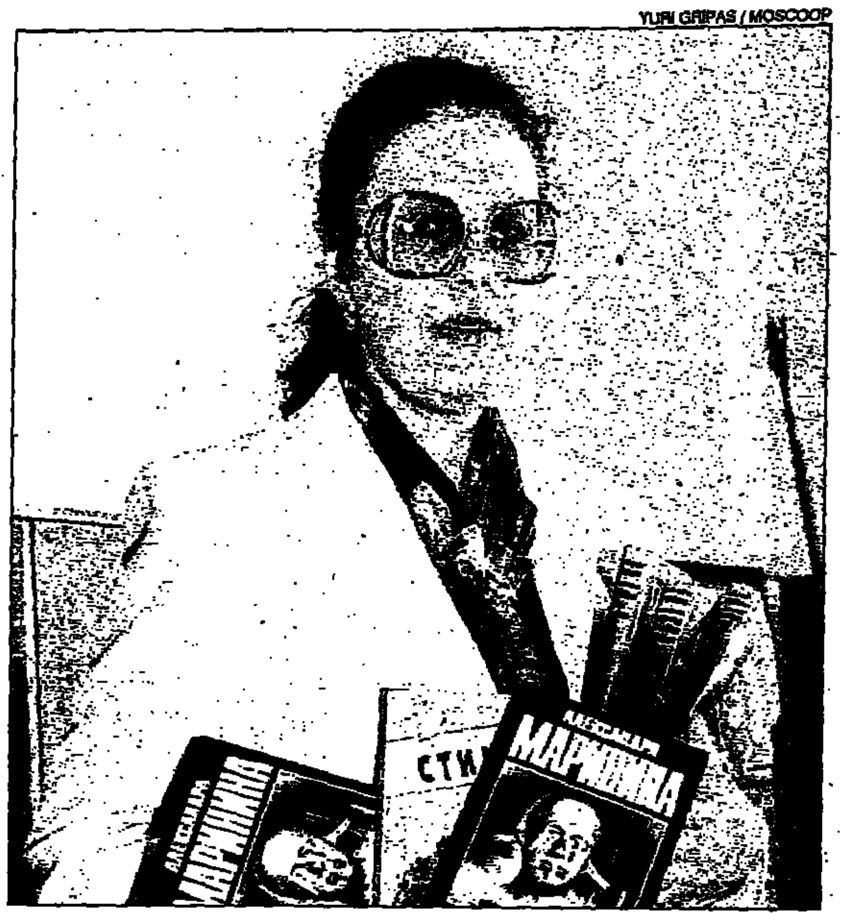
In her books the police are often depicted as incompetent or corrupt, and in *Accidental Killer* Kamenskaya relies on the help of a mafia boss to solve the crime. Critics charge that her novels depart from reality only when murderers are caught and sent to prison — a rarity in modern Russia.

Although the stories might be regarded as a bit too close to the truth for her superiors, she insists that everything she writes is completely fictional. So far the authorities have not made any complaints about the celebrity in their ranks, and General Anatoli Kulikov, the Minister of the Interior, personally presented Colonel Alekseyeva with the little known literary award for the "best book by a police officer in 1995".

Fungi lovers' terrible pickle

AT THIS time of year no meal in Russia is complete without a plate of freshly picked mushrooms, considered by many to be the best accompaniment to vodka. But the country's favourite dish comes at an unacceptable price for some, particularly in the late summer when thousands of Russians invade their local forests on mushroom-picking expeditions. No Russian would dare admit that he could not tell the difference between a toadstool and an edible mushroom, a fact confirmed by the 344 cases of poisoning this year, which have so far claimed 35 lives.

YURI GRIPAS / MOSCOOP



Lieutenant-Colonel Alekseyeva finds crime and punishment profitable

Chaste designs on power by Virgin Party

RUSSIAN women have good grounds to lament their poor representation in parliament and government, and a new political movement launched exclusively for them is unlikely to redress the imbalance. To the sniggers of male spectators and curiosity, verging on disbelief, of women guests, the All-Russian Virgin Party held its first public meeting at a Moscow nightclub this month.

In a country where women boast of having one of the most active sex lives in the world, the chances of the party becoming a mass movement are slim. In two years of recruiting, it has managed to attract a meagre 12 members, who must be chaste and over 18.

"I realised that at the age of 25 it was getting late to lose my virginity, so I resolved never to lose it," said Elizaveta Lavinskaya, the president, who despite her well-publicised position still has to fend off the advances of her countrymen. As for new applicants, Ms Lavinskaya said that they did not need to prove that they were virgins to join, because feminine intuition would root out any false applicants: "I can tell by their faces whether they are bona fide."

Sausages vanish from shelves in German alert over British beef

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

A NEW British meat scare swept through Germany yesterday as Hamburg police investigated the origins of hundreds of tonnes of smuggled and perhaps infected beef.

Labskaus, the north German speciality which mixes beef, herring, onions, potatoes and fried egg, was removed from shop shelves, and throughout the country sausage meat was being checked by inspectors.

The trigger for the latest scandal was the arrest of a Hamburg dealer who had imported 616 tonnes of beef. The authorities claim the meat came from Britain, in defiance of Germany's comprehensive import ban, but the businessman says the meat came from Ireland.

The shipment, which police forces say may point to an international web dealing with British beef suspected of being infected with "mad cow" disease, has put other regions of Germany on the alert.

In Hesse, 400 kg of suspected British beef sausages have slipped into the shops and the local authorities say the meat has probably been eaten. Some illegally imported meat appears to have been sold to Turkish shops in Frankfurt, and some has found its way to Bavaria, where Günter Dickhaut, president of the Meat Federation, yesterday called for tightening of customs controls.

It is still not clear whether all the meat being discovered derives from the Hamburg shipment. Certainly when police broke into a refrigerated store last week they found only 60 tonnes of the original 616 tonnes. Confiscated documents show that a large amount found its way from Hamburg to Dresden and then to Uzbekistan. More than 100 tonnes has also apparently been shipped to Eastern Europe.

The suspicion of the customs officers was aroused by the unusually low prices: to ferry meat across Western Europe to Uzbekistan and still make a profit suggests the purchase price was low. That in turn has prompted investigators to believe that the meat may have come from BSE-suspected herds.

The assumption is that 120 tonnes of the meat stayed in Germany. Some of it like the *labskaus* was tinned and there is still time to warn off consumers. But the meat that was sold for grilling or frying has been swallowed. The press was outraged yesterday. "Many feared it, nobody knew, now it's certain," said the Hamburg *Abendblatt*. "Illegally smuggled beef from BSE-nation Britain is being processed and eaten here by the tonnes-load."

Penthouse settlement

Bonn: Helmut Kohl robbed Germany of a summer spectacle by settling out of court with the German edition of *Penthouse* (Roger Boyes writes). The men's magazine had incurred the German leader's wrath by publishing a cartoon of his wife, Hannelore, posing almost naked over the bonnet of a government limousine.

The question was whether that represented an infringement of the Chancellor's right to privacy and a personal insult, as claimed by his lawyers, or whether *Penthouse* was within its rights to mock a leader. The Kohls dropped the case after a financial settlement. Informed sources suggest that about £25,000 may be paid to a charity for brain-damaged children.

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Take that eyesore off our seafront

It has been the most impassioned argument about art in Britain this year. It has resulted in a world-famous artist being sent packing by an English seaside town. And it has serious implications for those who like to foist "public art" — generally meaning inscrutable sculpture in unavoidable locations — on a public that hates the stuff.

Yet unless you live in west Cumbria you will probably not have heard a word about the affair. So let's enjoy the story of how little Whitehaven snubbed the renowned Eduardo Chillida ("the most celebrated living Spanish artist" — *Sunday Times*).

Three years ago Whitehaven's local authority, Copeland Borough Council, concocted a wonderful wheeze to bring £1 million of subsidy to this area of run-down industries. It focused on redeveloping the harbour to attract tourists, particularly cyclists setting off on the new "C2C" sculpture trail across northern England.

But to qualify for the desired subsidies, Whitehaven needed to commission a big, "important" piece of public art. Well, somebody — probably one of those shadowy "consultants" that hover like flies whenever the honeypot of public largesse is opened — came up with the name of Chillida.

The great sculptor was contacted. First he played hard to get, then he changed his mind several times about which site he and his pet architect wanted to "enhance". Finally he produced a small model of a work he called *Besarkada* ("Embraced") which he intended to build — a massive 18ft high and 15ft across — right on the shore.

At this point, the local council made two mistakes. The first was to put the model on display, invite comments, and even conduct a poll on the merits of Chillida's vast steel T-shape. A terrible blunder! As a damning Policy Studies Institute report on public art noted wryly a few years ago, the classic tactic is to "inform rather than consult" the public. Thus is Antony Gormley's giant *Angel* being imposed on the underwhelmed citizens of Gateshead, and David Mach's eccentric *Train* on bemused shoppers in Darlington.

And the second error? That was to declare that the sculpture could serve as a "homage" to the 104 miners who lost their lives in the town's terrible William Pit disaster, which occurred 50 years ago this month.

Well, the people of Whitehaven looked at the model of Chillida's steel blob, weighed it against the magnitude of the tragedy it was supposedly commemorating, and found it wanting. To be specific, they found it ghastly, ludicrous, insulting — and, at a reported cost of £300,000, grossly overpriced. It looked like "a prototype of the first hip replacement," declared one correspondent to the *Whitehaven News*. Others likened it to a gallows, a "chunk of scrap", and a "50-ton seagull roost".

WEEK IN THE ARTS

RICHARD MORRISON

And the more that the council wittered on about the "special irony" of Chillida's sculpture rising "like a phoenix from the slag rock", the more angry its residents became. "It's an eyesore imitating what *Blue Peter* does better with coathangers," fumed one.

Its creator's cause wasn't helped, unfortunately, by his nationality. "However upset we may feel about Spanish fishermen, can we all try to remember that this artist is not one of them," one kindly soul implored — but in vain. The general tone was implacably hostile. One lady, clearly Cumbria's answer to William McGonagall, spoke her mind in verse:

Eduardo Chillida may have
admirers,
And some of his works are a gem.
But surely, even he must admit,
This is not one of them.

All summer the barrage has continued. True, one or two locals saw some sense in the council's argument that, since nobody in Britain has ever commissioned a big sculpture from Chillida before (I wonder why not), the thing would "add to the stock of local attractions" — and also, of course, attract buckets of dosh from the EU, Northern Arts, the lottery and various other gullible parties. And as one resident noted, once the sculpture was erected it could have practical uses: "We could throw a fisherman's net over it and grow things like runner beans."

But when the vote came, it was crushing: 87 per cent against. So last week little Copeland council told the great Chillida that his services were no longer required. Oddly, this is the second time that the Basque genius has recently been rebuffed. Last year his plan to hollow out a mountain in the Canaries as a "sculpture to tolerance" foundered when locals became, well, strangely intolerant.

Anyway, in Whitehaven the council is putting on a brave face. "The response we have had to the sculpture is the best feedback we have ever had about *anything*," an excited spokesman said last week. Which only goes to show: modern art certainly gets people talking. And now they don't even have to fork out £300,000 to pay for it.

Nevertheless the Whitehaven Affair poses fundamental questions for the subsidised arts industry. Should the public be consulted, Whitehaven-style, before *every* big public-art decision? To deny any democratic participation in a process involving lots of public money and prominent public sites smacks of dictatorship. Yet if all cultural decisions are subjected to mob rule, art wouldn't progress at all. Tricky. Perhaps Chris Smith, the "people's Culture Secretary", has a view.

A competition will now decide who gets Whitehaven's commission. Avant-garde sculptors should probably not waste a stamped addressed envelope. The smart money in Whitehaven is on a nice statue of a mermaid.

ROBBIE JACK

Perrier Award organiser Nica Burns (third from left) gets roped into an appropriately wild and wacky photocall with the nominees for 1997

COMEDY: Hettie Judah on the Perrier Award nominees

Familiar fizz falls flat

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

It is unpleasantly symbolic that while the Edinburgh comedy festival is sponsored by those keynotes of rock'n'roll joy, cigarettes and alcohol, the comedy awards are given in the name of an inappropriately ascetic fizzy water. For the pre-nomination fortnight, the festival is a chaotic celebration of comedy and comedians, but from the Perrier source spring bubbles of rivalry and resentment.

It may be great publicity and commercial gold dust for the nominees, but the nominations are made so early in the festival that the element of hit and miss, so important when discovering new acts, is removed. Comedians are also discouraged from bringing new work to the Fringe by the fear that panel members will view work still in development.

Possibly reflecting the lack of fresh talent on the Fringe, rules for nomination, hitherto restricted to the up-and-coming, now seem to be entirely improvised. The list for 1997 includes only one unknown, a television presenter, a nominee from last year, the winner of the 1996 best newcomer award and a group of three.

So who is likely to scoop the Big One, when the winners are announced at midnight? Sketch ensemble **The League of Gentlemen** mine a particularly dark seam of humour. At their best and most disturbing, the scenario is played out in a vacuum of ambiguity, the audience thrown into the middle of a scene without knowing whether the action takes place in this world or the next, what the relationship is between the characters, and indeed whether they are male or female. At their worst they resemble the unedited out-takes of a student improvisation workshop. The plethora of middle-aged homosexuals portrayed are all too much like *Withnail and I*'s Uncle Monty and the jokes are overstated to the point where circumstantial punchlines are presented over and over again. But there are moments of sheer genius, in particular the scene in which an 18th-century *salonier* wagers his soul to Mephistopheles over nonsense card games.

"This is what we dreamt of as kids, isn't it? Staying up late and laughing at our own jokes," mused last year's best newcomer, **Milton Jones**. There is a charming childishness to Jones's humour, but it relies quite heavily on whether or not the audience wants to come out to play. He has a good battery of one-liners — "Apparently all Chinese children who play the piano know a tune called *Knife and Fork*" — and an unusual collection of anthropomorphic characters, including a 10p piece: "I may look like small change to you, but nobody has to hold me up to the light to see if I'm genuine."

Graham Norton, a familiar face and voice from television and radio, doles out a brand of queeny humour that makes progressive women of a certain age giggle pinkly and say: "Ooh, isn't he naughty." Last year his act included phoning numbers from gay personal ads; this year he placed an ad himself, looking for "exhibitionists wanting a good time, possibly with others watching". Mercifully, no one called. Despite warning the audience that "at some time in the show there might be some 'language'," Norton never went beyond the "the main difference between a straight man and a bisexual is about four pints of lager" school of nudge-nudge innuendo. Entertaining, but hardly groundbreaking.

Al Murray, the Pub Landlord, is a veteran nominee with a faultlessly funny and intelligent show. This man walks on lager, and frankly deserves to win. Life being illogical and unfair, he probably won't. Murray's hottest competition comes in the rotund form of **Johnny Vegas**, Bernard Manning with a potter's wheel and this year's only true comic find.

Light shines on a dark epic

BBC PROMS

WEDNESDAY night's Sibelius Prom was keenly awaited, with the London premiere of the recently rediscovered *Wood Nymph* and a rare performance here of the great choral epic, *Kullervo*.

It was **Osmo Vänskä** who brought *The Wood Nymph* to attention with a highly praised recording last year. The tone poem is as impressive as it is attractive, as Vänskä showed once again in his performance with the **BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra**. It features characteristically Sibelian build-ups: subtly changing figuration on strings, oscillating woodwind, noble brass.

The ending is stark, however, looking forward to the sombre world of the *Kalevala* epic also evoked in *Kullervo*. The national myth drew from Sibelius a mighty symphonic poem in five movements, an hour and a quarter long. The story, narrated largely by a male ensemble — here the well-drilled Helsinki University Male Chorus — is brutally simple. Kullervo entices a golden-haired maiden into his sledge, and they spend the night together before realising that they are long-lost brother and sister. Kullervo's sister feels obliged to drown herself, while Kullervo impales himself on his sword.

The mood of the music is almost unrelentingly dark, but the young Sibelius sustains it with unerring skill. Vänskä shaped the epic structure to an overpowering conclusion. Jukka Rasilainen and Kirsi Tiihonen were the baritone and soprano soloists.

A recently released recording of Brahms symphonies by **Sir Charles Mackerras**, using an authentic-sized orchestra (the Scottish Chamber Orchestra) and paying attention to historical performance practice, led one to expect a similar approach in Mackerras's Brahms Four on Thursday night. However, the **London Philharmonic** seemed little reduced, and I could detect few changes from the norm.

And yet there was one crucial difference, for Mackerras adopted an elasticity of beat known to be prevalent in the 19th century but generally abandoned today. Frequent rubati, hesitations both minute and palpable, and overall suppleness of rhythm created a marvellously expressive reading.

For Schubert's Symphony No 3 in D a gesture towards period instruments was made in the form of natural trumpets and hard sticks for the timpani. Whatever the reason for the compromise, the performance — both rhythmically alert and sweetly lyrical — was wholly convincing.

Appropriate as it was to hear three Schubert songs orchestrated by Brahms, it was Berlioz's brilliantly imaginative scoring of *Erlkönig* that stole the show — especially with **Thomas Allen** animating the various roles in so electrifying a manner.

BARRY MILLINGTON

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE HAUNTED SPY

Why did the double agent Kim Philby have the grief of these two children on his conscience? Phillip Knightley reveals that he abandoned their parents, the spy couriers Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, to the electric chair

THROUGH THICK AND THIN
"It is tempting to treat the British as a study in decline . . ."

STREET STYLE
What's wrong with my clothes? Janet Street-Porter models her favourite frocks

£10,000 BOOKS PRIZE
Identify authors and answer teasing questions for the chance to win a £10,000 library

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Buried riches of the Treasury

Keep the heart of Whitehall public — and open, says **Giles Worsley**

With little fuss, the Government has taken advantage of the summer recess to abandon one of the more doctrinaire legacies of the Conservative administration: selling off the heart of the Civil Service, the Treasury building on the corner of Parliament Square and Whitehall.

If ever a building was meant to house government ministries, it is this, lying as it does at the centre of Whitehall, its foursquare Classical respectability glowering across Parliament Square at the Gothic extravaganza of the Palace of Westminster, while its pompous entrance front guards the approach to Downing Street on Whitehall.

Designed in 1898 as the New Public Offices by J.M. Brydon and H. Tanner, the Treasury building is a reminder of that golden moment of Edwardian imperial confidence when even the British Government was prepared to abandon its habitual parsimony and build handsomely.

With its elaborate Baroque towers punctuating Westminster's skyline and its rich Classical elevations, the building is a familiar backdrop to Londoners and tourists alike, but for those privileged enough to get security passes the real delight is to penetrate to the core. Here its great circular court, modelled on the Whitehall Palace built by Inigo Jones for Charles I, is one of the finest unknown public spaces in London.

The Treasury has always suffered from politicians trying to use it to score political points. After all, the department it houses lies at the nerve centre of government, so what better way to set a public example? Thus in the 1960s, when politicians thought that Britain could be a modern nation only if it swept away its past through comprehensive redevelopment, the Treasury was to have been demolished. Along with much of the rest of historic Whitehall, it was to make way for a monolithic series of concrete ministries then seen to symbolise the latest in go-ahead government. Mercifully, the public outcry was too great and the scheme was abandoned.

Instead, the Government set about improving the existing buildings, triumphantly so in the case of the neighbouring Foreign and Commonwealth Office, whose 16-year restoration was completed earlier this year.

Here a pragmatic grasp of what was essential in a modern office (chiefly excellent telecommunications, rather than architectural modernity) was combined with sensitive conservation policies. The result was a greatly improved building which had more office space, but which also revealed the full glory of the rich interiors for the first time in half a century. And all for significantly less than the cost of a new building. What is more, in a break with traditional government secrecy, the interiors will be accessible to the public — in limited numbers — during Heritage Open Days next month.

The Government then decided that it was time to look at the Treasury. Like most buildings coming up to their centenary, it needs a major overhaul. It has never been properly rewired, the basement is prone to flooding, there are problems with the concrete diaphragm structure, and, like many public offices, ad-hoc alterations have compromised the original design.

A temporary exile south of the river was planned while the building was brought up to modern standards. Sir Norman Foster, famed for his sensitive integration of old and the new in historic buildings, at the Royal Academy's Sackler Galleries and now in Berlin at the Reichstag, was employed as architect. English Heritage was brought in to advise on what parts of the building should be sacrosanct and which could be more radically altered. With an excess of dull, early 20th-century corridors to play with, it proved more amenable than might have been expected.

But ideological fervour clouded the picture. The Conservative Government's Private Finance Initiative (PFI), the cornerstone of its attempt to shift the balance of public infrastructure funding on to the private sector, was proving hard to get going. How better to prove that PFI could work than by turning the Treasury redevelopment into a PFI project? So the decision was taken to sell off the Treasury building to a public consortium. This would then remodel the building and lease part of it back to the Treasury while turning the rest over to private use — a hotel was mentioned although luxury flats were the favoured solution when the scheme was dropped.

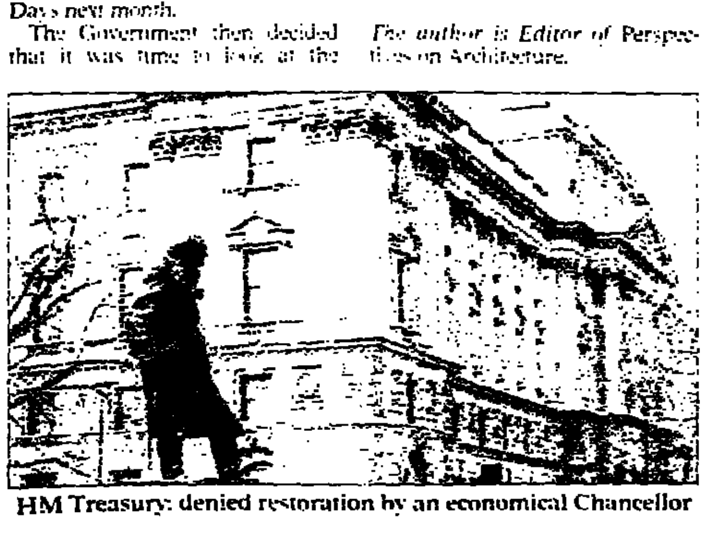
It was never designed to hold one ministry

All this has now been abandoned. Yet again the Treasury seems to be a political football, this time because an economical Chancellor of the Exchequer does not want the Treasury to be seen engaging in expensive building works when he is trying to draw a tight rein on public expenses.

Today the Treasury has no idea what will happen to its building, but though modernisation can be postponed, it cannot be abandoned. At least any new proposals can start with a clean sheet, without the absurd compromise of giving over a substantial part of one of the key Whitehall ministries to luxury flats. The Government should begin by examining how the building could suit its broader needs. It was never designed to hold one monolithic ministry but to house a number of different departments, each with their own entrance, grand rooms and offices.

As modern ministries shrink to relatively small central elements, this original concept should be revived. If the Treasury does not need all the building, then other ministerial offices should take up the redundant space, not flats for itinerant millionaires. And if the reorganisation could again open up the central court to the public and provide occasional access to the grand rooms, we would all benefit.

The author is Editor of Perspectives on Architecture.



HM Treasury: denied restoration by an economical Chancellor

A vegetarian has contracted the 'new' CJD — but **Simon Barnes** won't change his principles

A meatless diet isn't healthy — just wise

What, then, is the point of being a vegetarian? The sad tale of Clare Tomkins, the vegetarian who has contracted BSE, or "mad cow" disease, has naturally attracted a good deal of attention: a strange and frightening story of a strange and frightening disease.

Ms Tomkins has been a vegetarian for 12 years. Has she been wasting her time? Is vegetarianism now a proven fallacy? Does the tale of poor Ms Tomkins mean that vegetarianism has exploded?

Perhaps it does, but to tell the truth, I don't give a damn one way or the other. I have been a vegetarian since 1976, and I will carry on being one. I will carry on even if scientists prove conclusively that vegetarianism is frightfully bad for you. And if they add that beef is the only truly healthy food known to mankind, I still won't eat it.

I suspect that Ms Tomkins would hold the same view. She has always been, like most vegetarians, an assiduous reader of labels, never one to let her guard slip and have some biscuit-maker slip a scruple of animal fat into her elevenses.

Mad extremism, said the non-veggie. But it is just an aspect of taking a logical, ethical position, that is all.

Do you do it for your health? I have been asked that question times without number? It is a question I find not so much irrelevant as mystifying. What has my health to do with the matter?

There are plenty of vegetarian convenience foods, and I eat them when it is convenient to do so. Perhaps they are better for you than foot-long Coney Island hot dogs. Perhaps they are worse. It is a matter of indifference to me.

Are you just terribly squeamish, then? Again, a question that has nothing to do with the case. In fact, I am not like the sensitive Monty in the film *Withnail and I* — "as a boy, I used to weep in butcher's shops". In my carnivorous days I loved to eat the inner organs of beasts. My steaks were warm rather than cooked, cold blood pudding was a favourite lunch, and my treat of treats was sweetbreads.

These days I prefer to slay the fatted aubergine. I could not find it in my heart to kill a cow, butcher it and eat it — rather like Alice on being introduced to the pudding — therefore it is logical that I don't get somebody else to do it and then pretend it didn't happen. I have more respect — at least for the logic — of the shooting man who will kill, skin, clean and cook his own rabbit than for the squeamish hamburger eater who can't bear the thought of tripe and onions.

Is it just because you like animals? This is a question that tends to get asked rather eagerly, for to say "yes, I do" is at once to label oneself a sentimentalist, an anthropomorphiser, a person who has abandoned logic for the cuddliness of the bunny-wunnies. If the person is male, he is a wimp, unworthy of his sex. His moral stance can, therefore, be rejected out of hand.

I *do* like animals, as it happens, but I travel to all kinds of wild places to be among them. Wimp that I am, I have walked unarmed into an angry lion, on another occasion a charging elephant. I keep animals, too. A pair of non-vegetarian cats and two horses. I have no objection to administering the occasional whack to a horse that seems to need it, either. I love being with my beasts, but they have nothing to do with my vegetarianism.

Peter Singer, the ethical philosopher, wrote the groundbreaking *Animal Liberation* — a discredited phrase since it has been adopted as an extremist slogan. But Singer's notion of the expanding circles of concern — humankind moving progressively beyond family, beyond tribe, beyond nation, beyond race and now beyond species — anchors a vegetarian's stance to the solidity of rational argument.

And Singer himself insists that he is no pussy and dog-eat-dog man himself. He does not want pets cluttering the place up. We can dispose of the canard that vegetarians care more about animals than people. Meanwhile, some of the soppiest, animal-daft people you could meet live off meat pies. The entire issue of sentimentality is just another red herring.

You do not have to be sentimental to find cruelty disturbing. The cruelties of modern animal husbandry do not bear thinking about — so people normally don't think about them. The thought of the debeaking machine would rather take the edge off *coq au vin*.

Does an animal have rights? Well, I don't think a dog has a right to vote, nor a horse to send its foal to a decent school. But a domestic animal has, I think, a right to a decent life. A chicken has a right to a beak and the use of its legs — a right denied in battery farming.

People think that everything to do with vegetarianism is to do with sentiment — with the abnegation of reason. The very opposite is true. Let us go back to the Age of Reason itself and to Jeremy Bentham, the utilitarian philosopher.

People suggest, he said, that we have the right to do as we please with an animal — beat it, kill it, eat it — because it is less intelligent than a man. But a horse, he said, is far more conversant and intelligent than an idiot child, and we would not beat an idiot child. No, he said, the right question is not: can they think, but: can they suffer?

Nightmare on a bare mountain

Sheep subsidies are ruining Cader Idris, the loveliest peak in Wales

Simon Jenkins

The cliffs of Cader Idris are sliding downhill. The summit is failing towards the sea. I have climbed Britain's most beautiful mountain most years since boyhood, and each time it has deteriorated. This year the change seems faster than ever.

Cader is rare among British mountains in having the form and aspect of an Alp. Two great volcanic scoops, or cwms, are filled north and south with deep lakes from which 1,000ft cliffs rise sheer and high. Like its sister Snowdon to the north, Cader has a topography similar to Everest. As children we even gave its features Everest names: the Icefall, the Western Cwm, the South Col. The dark sweep of Cambrian rock and slate that rises from Llyn-y-Cau on the Tal-y-Llyn side, delighted artists of the picturesque. It produced Richard Wilson's masterpiece at the Tate. In the 19th century, the Dolgellau guide Richard Pugh built a stone hut (now derelict) on the summit and sold refreshments to climbers.

Perhaps because it is 70ft short of the magic 3,000, Cader is not overwhelmed with visitors. We added rocks each year to the summit cairn to help it to grow higher. The charms of the great Snowdon ranges to the north are thankfully more popular than the isolated peaks of Mid Wales's Bala Fault.

Walking Snowdon in high season, as in the Pennines and the Lakes, you will often find yourself held up in a queue, penned in by steps and fences. You can still reach the top of Cader most days and encounter no more than a dozen souls on the way.

Every Cader climber has his favourite route. Best known are the Pony Track and the Fox's Path from the Mawddach Valley to the north. The toughest and most picturesque is from Minffordd by Tal-y-Llyn to the south. This passes up a steep wooded ravine of tumbling waterfalls before emerging by [illegible] then descending [illegible] in summer. The path comes out into a green valley that leads to the great cwm of Llyn-y-Cau. From here the route climbs up the southern saddle and [illegible] miles along the rim of the [illegible] to the peak. The glory of this climb is that it gains height early and thus offers the longest walk at altitude. On a (rare) clear day, the whole of Cardigan Bay is laid out to the west.

Yet even here erosion threatens. Every section of the path is changing for the worse. In the wooded ravine, steps have had to be inserted to stop the hill becoming a mudslide. On the scramble up to the saddle, huge rocks have been deposited by helicopter on to what was an earth track. One scree has thus been created to prevent another, turning a walk into a foot-bruising scramble.

The slope to the summit is now a long scree, as thousands of feet dislodge tens of thousands of stones over the years. Wilson's view of Cader would now show its dark flanks streaked with tears, where walkers have worn away the topsoil and spread narrow paths into grey-white scars.

None of this is as drastic as the change in the ecology. I am no expert in detecting sedge and saxifrage decline or marking the fate of skylarks, lapwings, curlews, plovers and pipits. I only know what I used to see and can no longer. Cader was once a mountain with a coat of heather, bilberry and moss, interspersed with thick tufts of grass — what botanists call dwarf-shrub heath. This rose above a tree line of hawthorn, hazel, birch and scrub oak, with below it thicker bands of oak and pine. The climb to the summit was thus a progress through layers of flora. The mountain grew wilder under foot. We picnicked off bilberries and could trace the passage of autumn in the colours of the heather.

Cader is no longer heather-clad but on its way to being a lawn, a sweeping monoculture of acid grassland above a "tree-line" of poisonous rhododendron. The reason is sheep. These are not any sheep, not sheep needed for food and clothing, but your sheep and mine. £30-subsidy-a-head sheep. Sheep Annual Premium Scheme sheep.

There are now 11 million sheep in Wales, four times the human population and more than ever in history. When I first walked these hills, local farmers said they were "carrying" ever fewer sheep disappearing in favour of the more efficient southern hemisphere. Welsh farming would depend on cattle and tourism. I cannot recall any sheep on the tops of Cader.

TATE GALLERY

Llyn-y-Cau, Cader Idris by Richard Wilson (1714-82): sheep and walkers have ravaged this view

That was before Common Agricultural Policy protection and subsidy. Farmers are not just paid by the taxpayer to put sheep back on to the hills, they are paid per capita.

At high density — in places as high as a sheep per acre — sheep are ecologically rapacious. They will eat anything, and find young heather and tree shoots specially palatable.

They graze close to the ground, leaving it a bright green baize table. The Snowdon National Park has lost enough upland to conifer farming. It is now losing its surviving heathland to sheep. (A crazy scheme to compensate farmers for farming fewer sheep in "sensitive" areas costs an estimated £3,000 per sheep removed.)

Yet to give all this money direct to farmers, leaving the landscape to regenerate, is ruled to be beneath their dignity. Farmers would appear to be earning money for nothing.

The contrast between the Welsh mountains today and 30 years ago is stark. An ecologist has fenced off a half-acre enclosure in the Llyn-y-Cau cwm, leaving the vegetation for some years now to grow undisturbed by sheep. The enclosure bursts with a profusion of grasses, heathers, mosses and bilberries. It is a sumptuous, tragic memorial to the botany of Cader Idris, dead courtesy of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The dwarf-shrub heaths of Wales are becoming the upland equivalent of East Anglia's arable prairies. This is not in deference to sophisticated market economics or to modern techniques of food production. The only money in sheep is subsidy, money direct from the taxpayer, suborned by politicians too weak to stand up to the hill-farm lobby.

Mountain ecology is being ruined as an act of policy. A small amount of public money is spent each year (through the National Park) to keep Cader Idris accessible and beautiful. A larger amount is being spent wrecking it.

Nor is that all. The view from the summit of Cader used to be of rolling uplands and of no man-made intrusion beyond a smudge of smoke above villages. Today every vista is afflicted by the dark stain of Forestry Enterprise (formerly Commission) conifer plantations, spread without respect for contour or water acidity across southern Snowdonia. East towards Bala, "the Forestry" has taken to felling whole hillsides, leaving the landscape raped and desertified. This quango is like the World Bank. It uses public money to punish the ecology and leaves its image to public relations.

The view south is marred by yet another government activity: power stations erected with Welsh Office permission (and tax subsidies) along the Cemmaes Ridge prominence. More towers rise above Llanidloes. These power stations are termed "wind farms" for public relations. It makes them no less hideous, and indeed more intrusive (because mobile) even than cooling towers. I am told that Friends of the Earth approve of them. They are no friends of this earth.

Cader Idris, the "chair of Idris", recalls a Welsh bardic king killed by Saxon invaders in the 7th century. It is one of Wales's mystic seats of poetry. A legend that greatly appealed to the Romantics held that anyone spending a night on the mountain would come down either a poet or mad. Few dared take the risk.

At present you need not spend the night. You can climb Cader in daylight — and be sure to come down maddened.

THE TIMES DIARY

Alarm call

BARONESS THATCHER, Joan Collins and other distinguished residents of Belgravia are to be asked to wear personal alarm systems around their necks at all times amid fears for their safety.

The alarms, worn on cotton necklaces, are to be issued to senior residents living around Eaton and Belgrave Squares. The initiative, from Westminster police, follows the recent spate of "Rolex robberies" in the area this year, in which well-heeled locals, including Michael Green, the chairman of Carlton Communications, were mugged outside their homes. Elderly residents in the locality, where a short lease on a one-bedroom flat can cost up to £1 million, have been sent letters warning them that an interviewer from the market research agency MORI will be calling later in the month to discuss their [illegible] and fear of specific types of crime. To help to instil security awareness, residents, who [illegible] Lord Forte and Milton Shulman, have been told not to admit their MORI interviewer without asking him to repeat a secret password. They will then be issued with the alarm pendants on cotton necklaces, which when activated, will alert officers at their local police station.

The only concern is that those more used to sporting diamonds will be reluctant to be seen wearing the alarms. "Baroness Thatcher has always favoured a simple pearl necklace," says a Belgravia-based friend of the former Prime Minister. "I can hardly see her swapping it for a necklace with an electric bell."

Diamonds: Joan Collins

Pearls: Margaret Thatcher

Voices off

THE Royal Opera House may be closed but that hasn't stopped feverish speculation about who will be given a job on the board when more than half of the present directors come to the end of their tours of duty within the next few months. The [illegible] tip is that the many voices of Rory Bremner will be heard around the boardroom table. With the Opera House keen to shed its elitist image, Bremner, who is a regular in the Crush Bar on first nights, is a popular choice with many staff. "He really knows his stuff," says one. "Board meetings would be much jollier with Rory."

Losing face

EVEN in Los Angeles, where insignificant bit-part TV actors are revered like minor deities, roadworks take account of no one. The Walk of Fame, the pavement on Hollywood Boulevard encrusted with the bronze star plaques of the silver screen's great and good, is to be ripped up so that a railway tunnel project can be completed. Transport officials plan to demolish 122 of the plaques, including those belonging to the actors Bob Hope, Mickey Rooney and Danny Kaye.

Originally the city's Metropolitan Transport Authority promised carefully to remove each of the 3ft by 3ft plaques and store them for relaying later. Now they are to remove just the performer's name, medallion and star and reset them in a new plaque when the roadworks are completed.

Historians argue that the originals, touched and knelt on by the stars themselves, have a significance that is sacred. "They are destroying a part of history and they should preserve these as they have promised," rails Robert Nudelman of Hollywood Heritage.

First bawl

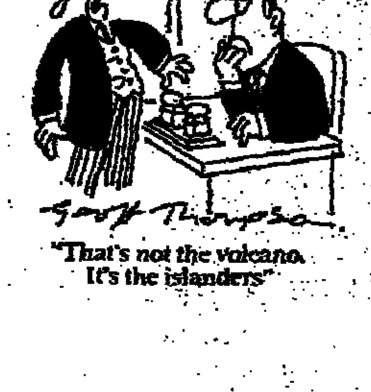
WHILE his compatriots' fortunes see-sawed at the Oval yesterday, the Australian fast bowler Paul Reiffel was boasting about his most impressive delivery yet. Reiffel flew back to Australia last week to be at his wife's side for the birth of their first child, Bailey. The lanky pace man has since been on the phone regaling his team-mates with a ball-by-ball commentary of the labour.

"I was right in among the action," he boasts. "It was amazing." The cruel gibe in the Australian dressing-room is that the nipper should be snapped up straight away by the England team, who could do with the help.

Claws are out

STRANGE reports are coming out of Cornwall of a spate of catnappings inspired by a children's book. Mowzer, a fictional black and white cat made hugely popular in the bestselling tale *The Mousehole Cat*, is being blamed for the attempted thefts in the fishing village of Mousehole.

The book, by local author Antonia Barber, has sold a million copies and several adult purchasers have been intercepted in the act of making presents of village cats to their children, telling them that the ball of fluff is Mowzer. So far all nappers have been thwarted but relations between locals and visitors are hairy.



"That's not the volcano. It's the islanders"

● *The squeamish should stay away from Kelvin MacKenzie's lecture on the future of cable television at the Edinburgh Television Festival today. The tubby former Editor of* The Sun, *who now runs what* The Mirror *calls its cable television operation, intends to appear before delegates, David Mellor-style, in a football kit. His chosen colours are those of Millwall, his station's sponsor. "Millwall was my team when I was a lot younger and I thought the TV people in Edinburgh might find this cuddly middle-aged chap rather more acceptable wearing this kit than a blue suit."*

P·H·S

A BANKER'S EYE

The Governor counts the cost of a Scottish parliament

Bankers are not natural romantics; but then misty eyes make it more difficult to read a balance sheet. It would be naive to expect Sir Bruce Patullo, the Governor of the Bank of Scotland, to welcome another tier of government with the power to take more money out of his customers' accounts just because the politicians raising the taxes swathe themselves in the Saltire. Sir Bruce's concerns should not, however, be dismissed as special pleading. His worries about the impact of a tax-raising Scottish parliament deserve serious attention. Scots should be aware of the price they may have to pay for their parliament. The Government argues that devolution will strengthen the Union, and it is only on that basis that *The Times* could support it. But if Scots discover the real cost of devolution only after the Edinburgh assembly is established then resentment could soon sour the new settlement.

The first area of concern for Sir Bruce might be termed the tip-of-the-iceberg question. Are the limited tax-raising powers advertised at the moment the only ones which will be used? In its White Paper, *Scotland's Parliament*, the Government proposes giving a future Edinburgh assembly the right to vary the basic rate of income tax by three pence in the pound. If exercised at the moment that would give the parliament some £450 million of additional money on top of the £14 billion of current Scottish expenditure for which it would assume responsibility.

The White Paper accepts that the decision of a future Chancellor of the Exchequer in Westminster might reduce the value of a 3p in the pound surcharge to the basic rate. The right of the Scottish parliament to raise "through the tax system" a sum equivalent to £450 million index-linked will, however, be preserved. That could mean an increase in the basic rate of more than 3p, or an increase in other taxes. Sir Bruce notes, ominously, that the referendum question on tax-varying powers does not specify that only income tax can be raised. An attempt by the House of Lords to insist that it did was rejected. With the principle established that a Scottish parliament can raise any tax to secure an "index-linked" amount, what guarantee is there that a future Edinburgh administration will not interpret the index as it wishes and levy any additional taxes that it wants?

Even if the parliament does restrict itself to the powers currently advertised, that is not, in Sir Bruce's view, cause for celebration. His second concern is the consequence for Scottish employment of a different tax regime from the rest of the UK. Sir Bruce believes that the probable impact of higher taxes will be fewer jobs. He is, of course, only speculating about the future. But his speculation is soundly based. Lower taxes have helped the UK to secure a disproportionate share of inward investment in the EU. Is increased unemployment, to paraphrase Norman Lamont, a price well worth paying for a Scottish parliament?

Sir Bruce's third concern is the underappreciated impact of the tax on those who will have jobs. The cost for an individual on the average Scots wage of £18,900 would be £6 a week. Tony Blair argued consistently before the election that the middle classes already pay too much in tax. How will they react to this impost? How, in particular, will young, talented Scots react when they calculate that the amount an average person might pay in "tartan tax", if invested over 40 years of working life, would yield £300,000? Might not Scotland's brightest and best be tempted to take the high road to England? And what effect would such a brain drain have on the Scottish economy?

Supporters of the tartan tax argue that the money raised could improve the quality of Scots' lives. Perhaps, but there is room for doubt. The political classes who ran Monklands, run Renfrew and are set to dominate a Scottish parliament have not yet proven themselves the most prudent stewards of public money. Ultimately, the argument for a Scottish parliament is one of democratic principle and should be won on that basis. But, in bringing a banker's eye to the tax balance sheet, Sir Bruce has done his countrymen a useful service.

POISONED LEGACY

How best to rid China of rotting Japanese chemical weapons

More than 50 years after the Second World War, the history of atrocities committed and endured still contains uncompleted chapters. Among the most horrific of these concern the Japanese invasion of China, where the full facts are only now emerging about the most chilling of all Japan's wartime breaches of international law, its resort to chemical and biological warfare.

Chinese estimates put the victims of Japanese mustard gas, lewisite and pepper attacks at nearly 100,000 killed or injured. In Zhejiang Province, Japanese bombs carrying fleas infected with bubonic plague were dropped on villages with devastating consequences. Perhaps 3,000 Chinese died at the infamous Unit 731 in Harbin, victims of medical experiments including infection with biological agents. Although China and Japan settled the question of war reparations in 1972, Chinese survivors and the victims' relatives this year began filing civil suits for compensation in Tokyo.

But the worst of this poisoned legacy belongs not to the past, but the present, for the retreating Imperial Army abandoned huge stockpiles of more than 700,000 of these weapons. They still lie there, now in an extremely hazardous corroded condition. Years of negotiation between China and Japan are only now coming to a head, with China insisting that final agreement on their destruction must be reached by the time Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, visits Beijing next month.

Several factors have contributed to this extraordinary delay — China's isolation for more than three decades after the 1949 revolution, the destruction of key Japanese war archives and, until recent years, Japan's reluctance to confront its war record, including its involvement in chemical and biological warfare. It was only after seven Japanese inspection missions to China that Tokyo finally confirmed that the weapons were Japanese wartime stock and accepted responsibility for destroying them.

Under the 1993 Chemical Weapons Convention which finally entered into force in April this year, signatories are obliged to remove chemical weapons left in other countries. But last December, China reluctantly accepted Tokyo's argument that it would be too hazardous to ship the leaking armoury to Japan and agreed to Japan's offer to build environmentally safe disposal factories in China itself. This political accord is only the first and least difficult step. The two sides have yet to agree where the plants are to be sited and what technology to use. Above all, precisely because postwar Japan has had no involvement in such weaponry, it lacks the required expertise.

The Japanese Government insists that it is ready to foot the considerable bill and has every intention of meeting the ten-year deadline. Given the environmental and health risks these stockpiles pose, it has every incentive to do so. Its preferred option appears to be to contract Japanese companies to do the job and hire experts from countries such as Britain and America. This could prove a cumbersome approach, risking further delays. That would be politically and environmentally unacceptable.

The huge scale of this hazardous mission suggests that a better approach would be for Britain, America and Japan to mount a joint task force. Sceptics, particularly in the US Congress, were reluctant to sign the Chemical Weapons Convention on grounds of impracticability. This could be a first test of international co-operation under the convention that would both help to prove the sceptics wrong, and heal a wound that scars the whole world and has festered far too long.

CIVIL WAR GAME

Blair can bring his side to victory

In the months since the election there has been a quiet civil war between two sections of the Labour Party. This is not Old Labour versus New or Left versus Right or even Angles versus Celts. The battle is between Roundheads and Cavaliers. Each side commands support from a Downing Street base.

Labour Party history and traditions offer little guidance to either the Blair Cavaliers or the Brown Roundheads. For every austere Cripps there has been a buccaneering Bevan; for every prolier-than-thou Tony Benn, a claret-quaffing Roy Jenkins. Nor is this even a class divide: it was John Prescott who made the gloriously Cavalier remark that ensured the survival of the Millennium Dome project: "If we can't manage this, we're not much of a Government."

Cavaliers take more risks: Roundheads are more cautious. With the leader of the Roundheads guarding the purse-strings, this Government is unlikely to be charged with Cavalier extravagance. But style matters to a Cavalier as much as substance; and style can be relatively cheap.

So, for instance, Tony Blair has taken the longest foreign holiday of any Prime Minister since Winston Churchill (Cavalier incarnate) in 1953. Unlike Margaret Thatcher, who could hardly bear a week away from work, he does not possess superhuman energy. Mr Blair looked at the end of July as though he truly needed a decent break.

Inviting pop stars and actors to No 10 is another cheap but provocatively Cavalier move. Roundheads have frugal ways to assert themselves too. Complaining about press coverage costs nothing. Nor does banning other people's pleasures, and already ministers are rushing to outlaw guns and cigarette ads, while backbenchers are intent on banning hunting.

The most conspicuous sign of a Roundhead ascendancy in the Government is its approach to work. Most ministers act as if voters gave them five months, not five years. They arrive in their offices before the cleaners and force officials to work until the night shift takes over. For a Government that is supposed to support family-friendly working, this is a bad example and probably self-defeating too. If Mr Blair wants to forestall a Roundhead capture of the commanding heights of Government, he must give his colleagues appropriately Cavalier guidance when he gets back.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Jobs, not benefits, to reduce poverty

From Dr M. Riad el-Ghonemy

Sir, Roy Hattersley ("Must the poor pay the price of victory?", August 16) argues for income redistribution through moderately taxing the rich. Peter Mandelson, on the other hand, calls for an assault on "social exclusion" by keeping social benefits in line with inflation (report and leading article, August 15). Both views contribute usefully to the debate.

It is essential, however, to address some elementary questions. Who are the most needy? How many are annually pushed below the poverty line (the new poor)? What are the root causes of their poverty and sources of inequality? How can the extent of inequality of opportunities for generating primary-income earnings be significantly reduced without excessive reliance on economic growth?

The merit of relying on primary income (derived from human and physical assets) rather than secondary income (derived from social benefits) is confirmed by several studies. These indicate that reliance on the former is likely to reduce poverty incidence between three and five times faster than reliance on the latter; its beneficiaries tend to be less vulnerable to economic shocks and fiscal changes.

Yours sincerely,
M. R. el-GHONEMY
(Senior research associate),
International Development Centre,
University of Oxford,
21 St Giles, Oxford.
August 18.

Switching big top

From the Head of Leighton Park School, Reading

Sir, So it seems (report, "Germans lose Dome contract to America", later editions, August 22) that we are to mark the millennium with a Teflon dome that "could last for 25 years". We were originally given to understand that this project was intended as an enduring legacy.

Having just returned from France, where innumerable 12th-century churches continue to inspire one with their astonishing carvings, I can only wonder at the vision and technique of those builders, eight centuries ago. Have we lost something in the meantime?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DUNSTON,
Head,
Leighton Park School,
Shinfield Road, Reading, Berkshire.
August 22.

From Professor Jonathan G. M. Wood

Sir, It is an architectural conceit to describe the Greenwich structure as a dome. Well engineered domes can last a millennium or two. It might help the politicians now dabbling in its design if it was described correctly, as a bubble.

Yours sincerely,
JONATHAN G. M. WOOD
(Director),
Structural Studies & Design Ltd,
Northbridge House,
Chiddingfold, Surrey.
August 22.

Sex offenders

From the Minister of State, Home Office

Sir, The notion aired by the assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers that the national sex offenders' register is "a shambles" and "flawed" (report, August 15) is totally misplaced. Quite simply, there is no confusion and no flaw. The Probation Service is in no way banned from providing the addresses of sex offenders to the police.

May I therefore set out the process, so that all doubt is removed:

Offenders under supervision will be given a form by the Probation Service, telling them what they are required to do.

This information will be copied to the police.

The legal requirement to register details of names and addresses rests with the sex offender and they should be left in no doubt of their obligations.

If the offender fails to register within 14 days the police will take action.

Penalties for non-compliance are up to six months in prison and/or a £5,000 fine.

This is an important measure to protect the public, particularly children and vulnerable adults. It has been welcomed widely by the NSPCC, by the police and by chief probation officers. Sex offenders should not be allowed to imagine that they can get away with subverting the intention of the Sex Offenders Act.

Yours sincerely,
ALUN MICHAEL,
Home Office,
50 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
August 15.

Weekend Money letters, page 41

**Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk***

C. S. Lewis behind wardrobe doors

From Mr Richard Lines

Sir, It is well known that C. S. Lewis drew his images from a wide variety of sources — biblical, mythological and literary (letters, July 31, August 4 and 13). It is strange, therefore, that he has left us no clue as to the origin of one of the most powerful of them, the wardrobe that admits the children into the magical land of Narnia.

The recent correspondence has suggested three possible sources: E. T. A. Hoffmann, George MacDonald and Edith Nesbit. While Lewis was undoubtedly fond of Edith Nesbit's children's stories (and actually refers to characters from *The Story of the Treasure Seekers* in *The Magician's Nephew*), her "wardrobe" in *The Aunt and Amabel* from *The Magic World* is not such a close "fit" as Hoffmann's wardrobe in *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King*. In the latter there are fur coats and a wooded landscape under snow, exactly as in Lewis's story.

Lewis readily admitted the influence of George MacDonald and described him in his anthology of the writer's work as his "master"; but MacDonald never used the wardrobe image. He did, however, draw inspiration from the German Romantics, particularly Novalis and Hoffmann, and it seems most likely that it was MacDonald's writings which led Lewis to Hoffmann and his magic wardrobe.

What is not clear is why Lewis did not disclose his source here. In an essay on MacDonald he admitted that he was a don and that "source-hunting" (*Quellenforschung*) was in his marrow. Perhaps Lewis was reluctant to mention a German source of inspiration so soon after the Second World War — *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* being published in 1950?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD LINES
(Committee member,
The George MacDonald Society),
38 South Vale, Upper Norwood, SE19.
August 14.

From the Librarian of the George MacDonald Society

Sir, I have watched with interest the correspondence on C. S. Lewis in your columns, as a precursor of what we are likely to have to endure during the centenary year of his birth, 1998.

Owen Barfield, Lewis's lifelong friend, has observed that most of Lewis's fiction is pastiche, and pastiche is prone to pass over into plagiarism. For instance the source from Hoffmann's *Nutcracker* of the wardrobe entrance to Narnia through fur coats has been known for at least the past ten years.

It took me some time to comprehend Mr Paul Barnetson's allusion (letter, August 13) to a "cupboard" in MacDonald's *Lilith*. The protagonist in that book sometimes returns from another world via a book "closet" in his library. When he leaves our world, however, it is by a mirror/door in his attic (brain) — except once where, in a splendid passage of scatological writing, he utilises Edmund Spenser's "back gate".

Lewis never wrote an introduction for *Lilith* as Mr Barnetson suggests, although disconnected passages from the preface to Lewis's anthology of George MacDonald's works have been re-used as introductions for several editions of *Lilith* and *Phantastes*. This is unfortunate, because these passages are deliberately rhetorical and, out of context, convey a wholly misleading idea of Lewis's opinion of MacDonald's literary skills. His real view of MacDonald's writing is conveyed in many of the letters published in *Letters to Arthur Greeves*.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DOCHERTY,
Librarian,
The George MacDonald Society,
The Library,
King's College, Strand, WC2.
August 13.

From Mr J. Alex C. Maines

Sir, I have enjoyed the correspondence on "The Lion, the Witch and the Womb" but I feel that I must strike a serious note.

Mr Andrew Cuneo and Mr Christopher Whiteside (letters, August 13) talked of others' interpretations of Lewis's work and of the author's views on such interpretations. Fair enough, but while the comedy value of the wardrobe as the womb is clear, it is sad that anyone would seek to limit the interpretations of the reader.

It is a creative process for the reader to fashion his or her own (consistent) understanding of a text. It is not a science with right and wrong answers: people have the right to their own interpretation of texts.

It is up to readers to study the interpretation to see if it holds water, not for the original author to say that we have it wrong, or his disciples to say they do not endorse it.

Yours sincerely,
ALEX MAINES,
Harlequins,
Harlequin Lane,
Crowborough, East Sussex.
August 13.

Voters as 'cogs'

From Mrs Charlotte Horsfield

Sir, Lord Bethell tells us (letter, August 15) how people who have been elected under a system of proportional representation to the European Parliament are treated not as representatives of a constituency but rather as cogs in the political parties' machinery. He rightly warns against the use of such a system at Westminster.

The White Papers setting out proposals for devolution of power to a Scottish parliament and a Welsh assembly both suggest that election to those bodies should in part be by PR, with such representatives being chosen not by the electorate but by the parties.

In Wales it is proposed that there should be one representative for each of the parliamentary constituencies elected by first-past-the-post, and four representatives for each of the five Welsh European parliamentary constituencies elected according to PR and chosen from the parties' lists. Similarly, in Scotland there would be 73 members elected from the parliamentary constituencies, with 56 additional members elected by PR from the Euro-constituencies, also chosen from party lists.

Under such a system, with candidates being imposed on the constituencies, the parties at Westminster would become dangerously centralised.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLOTTE HORSFIELD,
24 Liverpool Road,
Kingston Hill, Surrey.

From Sir John Walley

Sir, How right Lord Bethell is to challenge the right of a prime minister to choose our Members of Parliament.

Our first and perhaps greatest Labour Prime Minister, J. Ramsay MacDonald, had no such ideas. He introduced, and got through the Commons, a Bill to make the single transferable vote, in the existing constituencies, the *only* method of electing Members to Parliament. Thus, no one could get there without demonstrating that he or she had majority support in the constituency.

In the confusion of the 1931 crisis the Bill never reached the statute book. But it is surely odd that our parliamentarians have never, since then, addressed their minds to such a simple method of reinforcing their positions as Members of a Parliament of individual constituencies.

Yours truly,
JOHN WALLEY,
Brookland House, 24 High Street,
Cottenham, Cambridgeshire.
August 15.

Race and intelligence

From Mr Ray Ward

Sir, *The Bell Curve*, Herrnstein and Murray's study of intelligence and class structure, does indeed say that Ashkenazi Jews now test higher than any other ethnic group, but it is not true to say (Nigella Lawson, August 13) that they "routinely appeared at the bottom" when intelligence was measured at the turn of the century.

What *The Bell Curve* makes clear is that the story, often repeated to show how untrustworthy the tests and testers are, that Jews and other immigrant groups into the US were thought below average, even feebleminded, is a myth, based on work conducted at Ellis Island by H. H. Goddard: Goddard "explicitly preselected his sample for evidence of low intelligence (his purpose was to test his test's usefulness in screening for feeblemindedness), and did not try to draw any conclusions about the general distribution of intelligence in immigrant groups".

Yours faithfully,
RAY WARD,
Flat 97, 17 Sheppard Drive, SE16.
August 13.

U-turn?

From Mr R. J. Parmenter

Sir, I have an equally useful book to the one featured in your report, "M25 jambuster runs head-on into opposition" (August 20), and apparently condemned as "dangerous" by the AA.

It is entitled *Avoid Motorway Hold-Ups* and features a detour between junctions 13 and 14 identical to the one shown in your map. My book was published in 1993 by, you've guessed it, the AA.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. PARMENTER,
14 Tees Road, Chelmsford, Essex.
August 20.

In praise of wasps

From Mrs Jean L. T. Coates

Sir, "If there were a purpose to wasps" writes Paul Heiney ("Time to fight the buzzing nuisance", Weekend, August 16) "I would not grumble, but I cannot think of one, nor have I ever read of one." Until today, that is, when Science Briefing tells us that certain kinds of wasp can be attracted to kill caterpillars, thereby helping "provide real benefits for subsistence farmers in Africa".

Yours sincerely,
JEAN L. T. COATES,
10 Jarrow Close,
Birkenhead, Merseyside.
August 18.

Disputed need for rules of grammar

From the General Secretary of the National Association for the Teaching of English

Sir, The explanation for the Government's change of heart about grammar tests for 14-year-olds ("Grammar test too tough for teachers", August 13) is far more complex than what you describe as the "difficulty of teaching subordinate clauses and adverbial phrases". Those simple rules are easy to teach but they are not, by themselves, sufficient.

Pupils need opportunities to analyse language in context, they need to be able to describe how language achieves its effect and then use this understanding to write clearly, precisely and effectively themselves. Any assessment of their knowlege and use of appropriate grammar or punctuation must be done through their own reading and writing (and speech), not by mechanical exercises.

That is why the approach to assessment needs to be properly thought out and why teachers will welcome the Government's rejection of the present pilot.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE BARNES,
General Secretary,
National Association for the
Teaching of English,
50 Broadfield Road,
Broadfield Business Centre,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
August 13.

From Baroness Platt of Writtle

Sir, Recently I have read the government White Paper *Excellence in Schools*, with much of which I agree.

I was therefore horrified to read that important tests in English are to be postponed because English teachers would find the grammar difficult to teach, particular mention being made of subordinate clauses and adverbial phrases.

From our public library I borrowed Cassell's *Guide to Written English*, which explains adverbial phrases (p200) in one third of a page. Is that too much for teachers to learn as part of their professional duty? The book goes on to describe "complex sentence" construction, including subordinate clauses in more detail, most interestingly. I cannot see why that should not be assimilated and taught by a qualified English teacher in a reasonably short time.

"Excellence in schools" will take a long time to achieve if there are delays like this.

Yours sincerely,
PLATT of WRITTLE,
House of Lords.
August 19.

From Mr Robert W. McCall

Sir, If teachers do not know how to teach sentence construction in English, presumably they cannot construct sentences. How then can they teach anything?

I note that a spokeswoman for the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority said that the authority will "fine-tune them [the grammar tests] based on feedback from the teachers". Of what use will this feedback be if the teachers cannot construct sentences?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT W. McCALL,
16 The Dell,
Nailsea, nr Bristol.
robert_mccall@compuserve.com
August 13.

Pudding plea

From Father Keith Hodges

Sir, I was particularly interested in one item on the dinner party menu from March 1879 mentioned in Emma Wilkins's article, "Life behind the green baize door" (August 11): "Aldershot pud".

As Vicar of an Aldershot church celebrating its 90th birthday on November 1, I think this pud might make an excellent item for consumption on the day itself, especially as the liturgy on that day will be particularly demanding.

A good "pud" may be just what everyone needs. Does anyone know the recipe?

Yours faithfully,
KEITH HODGES,
St Augustine's Vicarage,
Holly Road, Aldershot, Hampshire.
August 13.

Clean getaway

From Mrs Joan M. Bagley

Sir, The intriguing correspondence sparked off by the Reverend John Ticehurst (letter, August 15: see also letters, August 20) reminds me of an occasion when an aircraft lifebelt whistle proved indirectly to be a very attention-grabbing item.

The steward of a flight I was on had droned his way through the routine doggerel concerning safety exits, seatbelts and the use of the lifebelt, to which as usual practically nobody was listening. But everyone snapped to attention when he concluded with the words "... and a whistle to attract the attention of passing sailors". For that he got a well-deserved round of applause.

Yours truly,
JOAN BAGLEY,
Apartment 3, Saumarez Park Manor,
Route de Saumarez,
Câtel, Guernsey, CI.
August 22.

COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
August 22: Mr Leslie Weller (Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex) was present at Gatwick Airport, London, this afternoon upon the Departure of the Governor-General of Jamaica and bade farewell to His Excellency on behalf of The Queen.

Weekend birthdays

TODAY:
Mr Richard Addis, Editor, *The Express*, 41; Mr Graeme Bowler, chief executive, Kwik Save, 60; Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, MP, 54; Mr Geoff Capes, shot putter, 48; Mr Joseph E. Connor, former chairman, Price Waterhouse World Firm, 66; Sir Alan Cox, former chief executive, ASW Holdings, 61; Sir Robert Crichton-Brown, former chairman, Rothmans International, 78; Sir John Fairclough, former Chief Scientific Adviser to the Cabinet Office, 67; Dr John Ford, chief executive, DVLA, 61; Mr Alexander Gilmour, former chairman, National Playing Fields Association, 66.

Sir John Hoskyns, chairman, Emap, 70; Lord Kissin, 85; Mr Stanley Kitchen, chartered accountant, 84; Commandant Anthea Larken, former director, WRNS, 59; Mr Peter Lilley, MP, 54; Mr Andrew Longhurst, chairman, Cheltenham & Gloucester, 58; Mr Frank Lowe, advertising consultant, 56; Mr Ted Maidment, Headmaster, Shrewsbury School, 55; Mr Christopher Martin, Headmaster, Millfield School, 59; Dr Onora O'Neill, FBA, Principal, Newnham College, Cambridge, 56; Sir Brian Pearse, chairman, Lucas-Varity, 64; Mr Bob Peck, actor, 52; Mr James Quinn, former director, British Film Institute, 78; Miss Helen Rees, former director, Design Museum, 37; Mr John Rocha, fashion designer, 43; Mr Willy Russell, author, 50; Sir Roy Strong, former director, Victoria and Albert Museum, 62; Mr Peter Thomson, golfer, 68; Field Marshal Lord Vincent of Coleshill, 66; Sir Brian Young, former chairman, Christian Aid, 75.

TOMORROW:
Mr Paul Barker, writer and broadcaster, 62; Vice-Admiral Sir Stephen Berthon, 75; Mr Alan Brooker, former chairman, Extel Group, 66; Miss Antonia Byatt, writer, 61; Mr Charles Causley, poet, 80; Lord Chadlington, 55; Mr Carlo Curley, organist, 45; Sir James Duncan, former chairman, Transport Development Group, 70; Sir Michael Franklin, civil servant, 70; Mr Stephen Fry, actor, writer and comedian, 40.

The Earl of Harrington, 75; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston, former Comptroller, Lord Chamberlain's Office, 75; Major-General Iain Mackay-Dick, former General Officer Commanding London District and Major-General Commanding Household Division, 52; the Right Rev Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, 65; Mr Madsen Pirie, president, Adam Smith Institute, 57; Sir Graham Swanwick, former High Court judge, 91; Mr Sam Torrance, golfer, 44; Mr John Webb, rugby player, 34; Mr H.R. Wright, Chief Master, King Edward's School, Birmingham, 59.

Anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: Louis XVI, King of France 1774-93, Versailles, 1754; Sir Astley Cooper, surgeon, Brook Hall, Norfolk, 1768; Arnold Toynbee, social philosopher, London, 1852; Edgar Lee Masters, poet and novelist, Garnett, Kansas, 1869; Eleutherios Venizelos, five times Prime Minister of Greece, Crete, 1864; Sir Henry Tizard, scientist, Gillingham, Kent, 1885; Constant Lambert, composer, London, 1905; Keith Moon, rock drummer, Wembley, 1947.

DEATHS: Sir William Wallace, Scottish patriot, executed, London, 1305; Luis de Léon, mystic and poet, Madrigal de las Atlas, Spain, 1591; George Villiers, 1st Duke of Buckingham, statesman and royal favourite, assassinated, Portsmouth, 1628; Alexander Wilson, ornithologist and poet, Philadelphia, 1813; Rudolph Valentino, silent film actor, New York, 1926; Adolf Loos, architect, Vienna, 1933; Roy Chadwick, aeronautical engineer, killed on a test flight, 1947; Roger Martin du Gard, novelist, Nobel laureate 1937, Normandy, 1958; Oscar Hammerstein II, songwriter, Doylestown, Pennsylvania, 1960.

The Visigoths sacked Rome, AD 410.

Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, Italian-born anarchists living in America, were wrongly sent to the electric chair after being convicted of a payroll robbery, 1927.

The London Blitz began, 1940.

TOMORROW
BIRTHS: Robert Herrick, poet, London, 1591; George Stubbs, painter, Liverpool, 1724; William Wilberforce, leader of the anti-slavery movement, Hull, 1759; James Weddell, Antarctic explorer, Ostend, 1787; Sir Max Beerbohm, caricaturist and writer, London, 1872; Jorge Luis Borges, poet, Buenos Aires, 1899; Graham Sutherland, painter, London, 1903.

DEATHS: Il Parmigiano, (Francesco Mazzoli), painter, Cremona, 1540; Thomas Digges, mathematician, who, with his father Leonard, is said to have anticipated the invention of the telescope, 1595; John Owen, theologian, London, 1683; Thomas Chatterton, poet, committed suicide, London, 1770; Sadi Carnot, scientist, Paris, 1832; Theodore Hook, novelist, London, 1841; Getulio Vargas, President of Brazil 1930-45, committed suicide, Rio de Janeiro, 1954; Feliks Topolski, artist, 1989.

Mount Vesuvius erupted and buried Pompeii and Herculaneum in hot volcanic ash, AD 79.

The Massacre of the Huguenots in Paris by order of Catherine de' Medici took place, 1572.

John Charnock established a trading post on behalf of the English East India Company in Kalikata, West Bengal, 1690.

Washington was captured by British forces, 1814.

SIMON SCHLUTER

Members of the Jugnu Bhangra Group from Gravesend, Kent, dance with delight after learning that they are one of many small organisations to receive an Arts Council "Arts for Everyone" award of up to £5,000. The council yesterday announced more than 1,000 larger awards of up to £500,000, worth nearly £19 million. The scheme allows arts organisations to use National Lottery money to extend their activities to a wider audience

Dinner

Punjabee Society of the British Isles
The High Commissioner for India was the guest of honour and presided at a dinner of the Punjabee Society of the British Isles held last night at the Laguna Banquet Hall, London NW10, to mark the 50th anniversary of India/Pakistan Independence. Mr H.S. Chadha, president of the society, and Mr R.N. Bhargava, secretary, received the guests.

Appointment

Mr Riaz Hassan Naqvi to be a District Judge on the South Eastern Circuit from Tuesday.

Latest wills

John Normand Davidson **Kelly**, Principal of St Edmund Hall, Oxford, left estate valued at £1,652,346 net.
He left £3,000 to Chichester Cathedral; he left to St Edmund Hall, Oxford, for the general purposes of the college, all his academic books, all his copyrights and interests, together with the royalties, a drawing by Andrew Freeth RA of the late principal of the college, Alfred Brotherston Emden, and his home in Crick Road, Oxford.

John Lester **Clifford**, of Budleigh Salterton, Devon, left estate valued at £1,498,119 net.
He left shares in his estate to the Animal Welfare Trust, Whitehaven Trust, Christian Science Society, Sidmouth, the RSPCA and the PDSA.

Jakub **Szulc**, of London, N12, left estate valued at £1,085,223 net.
He left £50,000 to Immigrants' Aid Trust and the British Refugee Council.

Duncan Alistair Antoine **Grant**, of London, SW10, left estate valued at £1,140,012 net.
He left £500 to the Artists' General Benevolent Institute.

Daphne **Burbury**, of Camberley, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,829,750 net.
She left £2,000 to the Blue Cross and to the ladies' fund of the Berkshire Golf Club; £8,000 to RNIB; £2,500 to the National Canine Defence League; and £500 to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Paul Vincent **Bower**, of Slawston, Leicestershire, left estate valued at £1,011,614 net.

Jack **Braka**, of Mobberley, Cheshire, left estate valued at £1,695,073 net.

George **Bridge**, of Reedley, Burnley, Lancashire, left estate valued at £1,991,552 net.

Frances Mary Vibrett **Burkett-Smith**, of Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,006,867 net.
She left £15,000 for the upkeep and maintenance of her beloved bull mastiff bitch, Lucy for the rest of the dog's natural life. Any monies remaining from her residuary estate for her trustees to use to their best endeavours to find a suitable home for Lucy with people who will give her love and constant attention.

Francis John Tyrwhitt **Drake**, of Petersfield, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,624,231 net.

Marriage

Mr M.P. Thorman and Miss C.S. Boorman
The marriage took place on August 9, 1997, at the Church of St Nicholas, Porlock Weir, Somerset, between Malcolm Pelham, younger son of the late Mr Malcolm Pelham Thorman, and of Mrs Pamela Martin, of Ashley Combe, Porlock Weir, and Charlotte Sarah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Tony Boorman, of Norton Hall Farmhouse, Otterden, Kent.

University news

Sheffield Hallam
Honorary Awards
Sheffield Hallam University will be awarding honorary doctorates and fellowships to the following during degree ceremonies at Sheffield City Hall in November.

Doctorates:
Mr Johnny Ball, television writer and presenter, lecturer for the Engineering Council
Mr Sean Bean, actor
Professor Sir Harold Kroto, FRS, Professor of Chemistry, University of Sussex at Brighton
Mr Matthew Parris, journalist
Mr Ken Pounds, space scientist and X-Ray astronomer
Professor John Tarn, architect and Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Liverpool University.

Fellowships
Ms Dorothy Dixon-Barrow, a founder member of Campaign Against Racial Discrimination and the Sheffield and District Afro-Caribbean Community Association.
Mr Nick Kemp, director of the Engineering Employers' Sheffield Association.
Dr Mike Rodgers, a member of the Industrial Tribunals for England and Wales who has held positions on the university's Academic Board.
Mr Graham Solley, former head of the university's sport and recreation service.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. Brandt and Miss E. Hunt
The engagement is announced between Patrick, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Howard Brandt, of Liverpool, and Emma, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Leonard Hunt, of Boherbue, Co Cork.

Captain A.D.P. Henderson, RWF and Captain C.R. Summers, INT CORPS
The engagement is announced between Alasdair, son of Mr and Mrs R.D.P. Henderson, of Somerset, and Clare, daughter of Mr B.H. Summers, of Cardiff, and of Mrs K.M. Summers, of Sussex.

Mr L.E.J. Marton and Miss T.J. Saunders
The engagement is announced between Lance, younger son of Mr and Mrs Richard Marton, of Ascot, Berkshire, and Tamsin, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Saunders, of Cranleigh, Surrey.

Mr E.D.C. Mills and Miss G.E. Elizalde Gonzalez
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs David Mills, of London, formerly of Bristol, and Gabriela, daughter of Mr and Mrs Oscar Elizalde Gonzalez, of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Mr A.J.C. Moxham anhd Miss C.L. Cosgrove
The engagement is announced between Andrew John Claire, younger son of Mr and Mrs David Moxham, of North Crawley, Buckinghamshire, and Catherine Louise, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Dominick Cosgrove, of Ealing, London.

Mr J.B. Pennant and Miss F.M.C. Charlesworth
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr and Mrs Pyers Pennant, of London, and Francesca, daughter of the Rev and Mrs Eric Charlesworth, of Fairford, Gloucestershire.

Mr T.I. Robinson and Miss K.R. Green
The engagement is announced between Thomas, elder son of Mr and Mrs Edmund Robinson, of Tatenhill, Staffordshire, and Kathryn, only daughter of the late Mr Wallace Green and of Mrs W. Green, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

Church services tomorrow

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, ABERDEEN: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch, Ireland in C, Canon S van Culin; 6.30 ES, Harwood in A flat, O how glorious (Harwood) The Provost.

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 M, Te Deum in G (Vaughan Williams), Jubilate in C (Walton), The Dean; 3.15 Ch E, Wood in F, Oculi Omnium (Wood).

BANGOR CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Missa Bressivima (Eberlin), Steal away to Jesus (Tippett); 3.15 Ch E, Murrill in E, Splendenta te Deus (Mozart).

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 11 Ch Euch, Rev G O'Neill; 4 S EP.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Ch M; 10.30 Euch, Canon Galilee; 4 Ch E, I will sing with the Spirit (Rutter), The Provost.

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 11 Euch, Canon E John; 3.30 E, Save us, O Lord, waking, guard us sleeping (Bairstow), Responses (Ayleward).

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch, Darke in F, The Dean; 3.30 Ch E, Mine eyes for beauty pine (Howells), Noble in B minor, Canon A Redfern.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Ave verum (Byrd), Missa aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina), Rev Dr P Zahl; 3.15 E, Responses (Byrd), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton); 6.30 Compline.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Canon D Baxter; 3 E, Responses (Ayleward), Collegium regale (Howells).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rev I Moody; 11.15 Euch, The Provost; 6 Ch E.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Euch, Canon O Conway; 11.30 Ch M, Responses (Leighton), Te Deum (Vaughan Williams), Canon M Rees; 3.30 Ch E, O praise the Lord (Tomkins), Responses (Naylor); 6.30 ES, Canon M Rees.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Britten in C, Drop, drop, slow tears (Walton), Rev D Landreth; 11 S Euch, Missa: Simile est *regnum caelorum* (Victoria), Rev M Mankulow; 3.30 E, Let all the world (Leighton).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M; 11.15 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Canon Ward; 6 E, Responses (Smith), Stanford in B flat.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Dublin: 11 S Euch, Missa brevis (Kodaly), Hear my prayer, O Lord (Purcell); 3.30 C Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Lo, the full final sacrifice (Finzi).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Rev J Petty; 5 E, Responses [illegible], Purcell in G minor.

DERBY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Stanford in B flat, Ave Maria (Parsons), Rev G Marshall; 6 E, Responses (Leighton), Noble in B minor, The Provost.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Rose), Collegium regale (Howells), Canon D Brown; 11.15 HC, Mass in C (Schubert), Jesu, joy of man's desiring (Bach), Canon P Kent; 3.30 E, Responses (Ayleward), Sumsion in G.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé), Rev E Wall; 3.45 E, Purcell in G minor, It was in that train (Ferguson).

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Harrison in F, Rev G Daxter; 11.15 M Responses (Smith), Te Deum in B flat (Stanford), Give us the wings of faith (Bullock), The Dean; 3 E, Responses (Ayleward), Noble in B minor; 6.30 ES, Awake us Lord and hasten (Bach), Canon K Parry.

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Leighton in D minor, O sacrum convivium (Vann), Rev Prof D Martin; 11.15 M, Te Deum (Howells), I heard a voice from heaven (Howells), Canon Dr M Palmer; 6.30 E, Joubert in G, Faire is the heaven (Harris), Rev D Matthews

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC; 10 Euch, Ireland in C, Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), The Precentor; 3.30 E, Bairstow in D, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), The Precentor.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 Euch, Teach me O Lord the way of thy statutes (Attwood), The Treasurer; 4 EP.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Jubilate (Stanford), Bishop M Green; 3.30 E, Responses (Rose), Stanford in A.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Collegium regale (Howells), The Dean; 11.15 M, Te Deum (Sumsion); 3.45 E, Stainer in B, There is an old belief (Parry), Canon E Strickland.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP & HC; 10.30 Euch, Canon M Wolfe; 3 Ch E, Canon D Hutton, 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L; 8 HC; 9 Euch, 11 S Euch, Ireland in A minor, Stanford in G; 3.30 Ch E, Responses (Richard Seal), Brewer in D; 6.30 E, Rev R L Ford.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 M; 10.30 S Euch, Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Canon J Atherton; 6.30 EP.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Canon I Bennett; 6 Ch E.

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 8, 10.30 H Euch; 6.30 E, Responses (Oxley).

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Gabrieli Mass, Beati quorum via (Stanford), The Dean; 3.30 Festal E, Responses (Clucas), Stanford in G, Canon M Perham; 6.30 NP.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M & L; 10.30 Euch, Mass of the quiet hour (Oldroyd), Gloria (Merbecke); 3.30 E, Sumsion in A, Give us the wings of faith (Bullock).

PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 C, Ven G Knowles; 6.30 E, Canon A Wilkinson.

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8, 9.30 Euch; 11.30 M, Te Deum in C (Ireland), Jubilate in C (Ireland); 3 Holy Baptism; 5.30 E, Magnificat and Nunc dimittis in B flat (Gray), Canon M Glanville-Smith.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 M, Responses (Clucas), Collegium regale (Howells); 10.30 S Euch, Noble in B minor, Canon M Shields; 3.15 E, Responses (Williamson), Let God arise (Howells).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Rev M Mayne; 11.30 M, Rev A Philp; 3 E, Canon J Davies.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Canon C Smith; 6.30 E, Ven S Lowe.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Euch, Rhapsody No 1 in D flat (Howells), Pavane (Fauré), The Vice-Provost; 3 E.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 M & L; 9.30 C; *11.30 S Euch, Schubert in G, Loving* Shepherd (Rutter); 3.15 E, The souls of the righteous (Murrill), Stanford in A.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: *8 HC; 9 M; 10 S* Euch, Darke in F, Jesus, our Lord (Winter), The Treasurer; 6 E, Stanford in A, Greater *Love (Ireland).*

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Parish C; 11 S Euch, Canon R Capper; 6.30 E, *Dr E Marshall.*

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé), I saw the Lord (Stainer), *Rev R Lewis; 11.30 M, Te Deum in F* (Ireland), Jubilate in B flat (Stanford); 3 E, Noble in B minor, Locus iste (Bruckner), Preb *D C Goodman.*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Lloyd), Stanford in C, Rev J *Goodall; 11.15 Euch, Let all mortal flesh* (Bairstow), Canon A Harvey; 3 E, Wood in F, Hail gladdening light (Wood), Canon A Harvey; 6.30 ES, Rev P Cowell.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Jubilate Deo in F (Ireland), Set me as a seal *(Walton), Rev Prof J Barton;* 11.30 S Euch, Darke in A minor, Totus tuus (Gorecki); 3.30 E, Abrams in G, O taste and see (Vaughan Williams), Rev A K Walker.

YORK MINSTER: 8 HC; 10 S Euch, Collegium regale (Howells), Rev Dr J Toy; 11.30 M, Britten in E & C, Responses (Rose); 4 E, Let the people praise thee, O God (Mathias), Responses (Leighton), Rev R Furnell.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Mass of the Quiet Hour (Oldroyd), Ave verum corpus (Elgar), Rev C A Mitchell; 3.30 EP.

ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 S Euch, Rutter in D, Tu es petrus (Palestrina); 11.30 Ch C, Edwards in C sharp minor, Locus iste (Bruckner); 3.30 Ch E, Responses (Smith), Like as the hart (Howells).

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 MS; 10 MS, Five part Mass (Byrd), The Minister; 11.30 MS, How lovely are thy dwellings (Brahms); 6, St Giles at Six; 8 ES, Rev J Williams.

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; 10.30 Euch, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Tantum ergo (Duruflé); 3.30 E, Gloucester Service (Howells), Blessed City (Bairstow).

ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL, Old Aberdeen: 11 Rev R [illegible]

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.15 M; 11 S Euch, Missa brevis (Berkeley), How lovely are the messengers (Mendelssohn), Rev M Seeley; 3.15 E, [illegible] D, Choral no 1 in E (Franck), Canon M Saward; 5 Organ Recital.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, Ennismore Gardens, London, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy, Kievan and traditional polyphony, Met Anthony.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Rev Dr J Stott; 6.30 Rev R Trist.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa brevis in G (Casali), Rejoice in the Lord alway (Redford).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 11 M, Mr J Watherston; 12.15 HC; 6 E, Mr J Watherston.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Rev S Mitchell; 6.30 Rev J McMahon.

FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC; 11 Morning Service, Rev R Thorpe; 5 Informal Service, Rev S Downham; 7.30 Informal Service (Rev S Downham).

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Salvator mundi (Tallis), 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B.

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC, Rev Dr G Barritt; 11 MS, Mr N Cowgill.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Rev Dr P Graves; 6.30 Rev B Lucas.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozart), Rev V Stock; 6.30 E, Collegium regale (Howells), O quam gloriosum (Byrd) The Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Ch M & Euch, Te Deum in A (Boyce), Jesu the very thought (Bairstow), Canon B Christianson; 6.30 Ch E, Responses (Sanders), O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Guild Chaplain W Boulton.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Ch M, Te Deum in F (Ireland), Rev R Noble.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev C MacLeod; 6.30 Rev J H McIndoe.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 9 M; 11 SM, Missa Simile est Regnum (Victoria), Cantate Domino (Croce), Ave verum (Byrd), Prelude and fugue in G BWV 541 (Bach).

***ST GEORGE'S**, Hanover Square, W1:* 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; *10.30 S Euch, Missa in honorem Sancti* Thomae Mori (Oldham), Draw us in the spirit's tether (Friedell), Rev B Wilson; 6 E.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev M Robins; 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family Service, *Rev M Okello;* 6.30 HC, Rev M Okello.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, Jesu, the very thought of thee (Bairstow); 6.30 E, O praise the Lord (Batten), Rev C Kevill-Davies.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family Communion; 11 S Euch, Rev D Bean.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Missa brevis-Sanctae Margaritae (Gutteridge), Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Canon D Gray.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch; 11.30 Visitors to London Service, Rev A Hurst; 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev G Lee; 5 Ch E; 6.30 ES.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa for three voices (Byrd), Canon J Haliburton; 6 E & B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, New English Hymnal, Rev S Webster; 6 EP.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Missa, Puisque j'ai perdu (Lassus), Rev J Caldwell.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev C Jones.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Pater Noster (Stravinsky), Missa a 4 (Monteverdi), Fr A Kreft.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner St, SW3: 8 HC; 11 M; 6.30 E, Panis Angelicus, Preb M McGowan.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 9 LM; 11 HM, O sacrum convivium (Marenzio), Jesu dulcis memoria (Victoria).

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, A song of joy (Gibbons), Thine to me [illegible], Rev L H Bryan; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: No services during August — college leave.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Grant your servant, therefore, a heart with skill to listen, so that he may govern your people justly and distinguish good from evil. Otherwise who is equal to the task of governing this great people of yours? 1 Kings 3: 9

BIRTHS

BRACKEN - On 20th August to Sarah (née [illegible]) and Charlie, a son, Charles William Henry.

BUCKLEY - On August 20th in Melbourne, Australia, to Katie (née Corner) and Jonathan, a daughter, Alice Annie Rose.

HARRISON - On August 21st, to Jennifer (née Royle) and Michael, a daughter, Rachel Emily, a sister for Joanna and Patrick.

HARWOOD - On August 12th to Louise and Antony, a son, Thomas.

LOVE - On August 16th at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital to Alison (née Mumford) and Timothy, a son, James Robert.

NORRIS - On 11th August 1997, to Alison (née Arnold) and Trevor, a daughter, Phoebe Amelia Rose, a sister for Sophie.

ROSS - On July 8th, to Camilla (née Jeffcock) and Andrew, a daughter, Matilda.

ANNIVERSARIES

MUSLOWSKY - Happy paper anniversary Leggy, love you always, John X X X.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

PIGGOTT:EDIS - On August 23rd 1937 at St John's, Greenhill, Harrow, John to Mary. Congratulations and love from the family.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

SCURR:SPILLER - On 23rd August 1947 at The Church of St Mary Immaculate, Barnet, Cyril to Isabel Joan, with love from Martin, David, Andrew and Judy.

DEATHS

DAVIES - (née Clifford) Elizabeth (Liz) August 20th, peacefully at Crewkerne Hospital, Somerset aged 82. Funeral private. Donations to The Woodland Trust.

FORBES - Duncan F.R.C.P.E. greatly loved by his wife Scylla and their children, died peacefully on Friday the 22nd of August.

GODDARD - On August 21st 1997 aged 77 years [illegible] at Fareham, Hampshire. [illegible] Cremation at Portchester, Hampshire, Friday August 29th at 11.20am. Flowers, a rose preferred, may be sent to M. Coghlan Limited, Westbury Road, Fareham, PO16 7XU.

DEATHS

GRIMLEY - After a long illness at her home in Zimbabwe on 21st August aged 83, Brenda Constance (née Bradley) widow of Gerald and devoted sister of Mary, James and Gilbert.

HOWARD - Josephine Sylvia (née Colville) peacefully at Parkes House, Malvern on August 22nd, aged 85 years. Widow of Stewart, beloved mother of David and Michael, and much loved grandmother. [illegible]

KINGHAM - On 21st August 1997, peacefully at St Anne's Court, Bournemouth, Doris Laura, aged 100, widow of Cecil E. Kingham. Funeral Thursday 28th August, 1.15pm at Bournemouth Crematorium. No flowers please. Donations for R.N.L.I. may be sent to [illegible], Portman Lodge Funeral Home, Bournemouth, BH7 6AN.

MARROW - Edward Charles Gough at Kingsdon, Somerton, Somerset. Beloved husband of Patricia, much loved father and grandfather. Memorial Service in Somerton Church Friday August 29th at 3pm.

LOWE - Rebecca aged 92 years on August 19th 1997, peacefully at [illegible] Nursing Home, Bournemouth. Family Service at Bournemouth Crematorium Tuesday August 26th at 1.15pm. Memorial Service at a later date. No flowers please, but donations if desired to the Bournemouth and Christchurch Heart Fund may be sent to W. Smith & Sons, Funeral Directors, 53 Poole Road, Westbourne, Bournemouth BH4 9BA.

MASTERS - David Hill on 20th August 1997 aged 77 years. Beloved husband of Pegeen, much loved father of Jonathan and James and grandfather of Laura and Nicholas. Private cremation, no flowers by request. Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Church, [illegible] on Friday 29th August at 12.30pm.

PARKER - At Newbury District Hospital on 20th August 1997 [illegible] Parker [illegible]. All enquiries to Camp Hopson Funeral Directors, Newbury, Berks. Tel: 01635 522210.

PLOWDEN - Anne Bridget CBE, on 21st August 1997, [illegible] Funeral private. Memorial service to be announced. Donations if wished to [illegible] Cancer Research Fund, St Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE.

ROBARTS - Basil, on August 21st 1997 aged 82 years. Dearly loved husband and father. A private family cremation will be followed by a Service of Thanksgiving on a date to be announced. Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to Macmillan Cancer Relief c/o Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 86 Unthank Road, Norwich NR2 2PE.

SNOW - Frank, Husband of Bridget on 22nd August, 1997. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, [illegible] on Friday August 29th at 3.15pm.

SPURWAY - Peacefully on August 21st 1997 Margaret Stuart (née Baird). Beloved wife of the late Marcus, adored mother and devoted grandmother and great grandmother. She will be so greatly missed. Funeral private.

THOMAS - On 16th August 1997 suddenly but peacefully Ruth Thomas (née Gordon Smith) [illegible] Tel: (01306) 882266.

TRIMLESTOWN - Lord Anthony Edward 20th Baron on August 19th at Ada, Michigan, U.S.A. aged 69. Loving husband of Mary and brother of Diana and Raymond.

WHITWORTH - Isabel (Tink, née Costley-White) on August 22nd [illegible]

MEMORIAL SERVICES

PATERSON - The Memorial Service for Diana Paterson (née Gordon Smith) will be held in St Peter's Church, Cassington, Oxford, at 4.30pm on Saturday September 6th.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BURRELL - David, Arthur. Died August 1987. Always remembered. From sisters Kitty and nieces Cecily and Avril.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS
need holidays, so do their families. Before planning your own holidays this year, please spare more than a thought for those children who without your help will never get away at all.
Donations urgently needed by
The British Kidney Patient Association,
Bordon, Hants, GU35 9JZ.
Reg'd Charity No. [illegible]
B.K.P.A.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[illegible]

THE TIMES
BIRTH, MARRIAGE & DEATH NOTICES
For the placement of the above notices our offices will be open during the following times.
Today 9.30am - 12.30pm
(Notices will appear Monday 25th August)
Monday 25th August 9.30am - 12.00 noon)
(Notices will appear Tuesday 26th August)
☎ 0171 680 6880
Fax 0171 481 9313

SERVICES

[illegible]

WANTED

[illegible]

TICKETS FOR SALE

[illegible]

FOR SALE

[illegible]

TICKETS FOR SALE

[illegible]

[illegible]

OBITUARIES

DAVID ALLFORD

David Allford, CBE, architect, died on August 10 aged 70 of a heart attack. He was born on July 12, 1927.

David Allford never achieved the sort of celebrity enjoyed by today's architectural superstars, and nor would he have wanted to. Yet he was a prolific and unusually gifted architect, highly regarded by his peers, and some of the projects on which he worked are now familiar fixtures in thousands of daily lives.

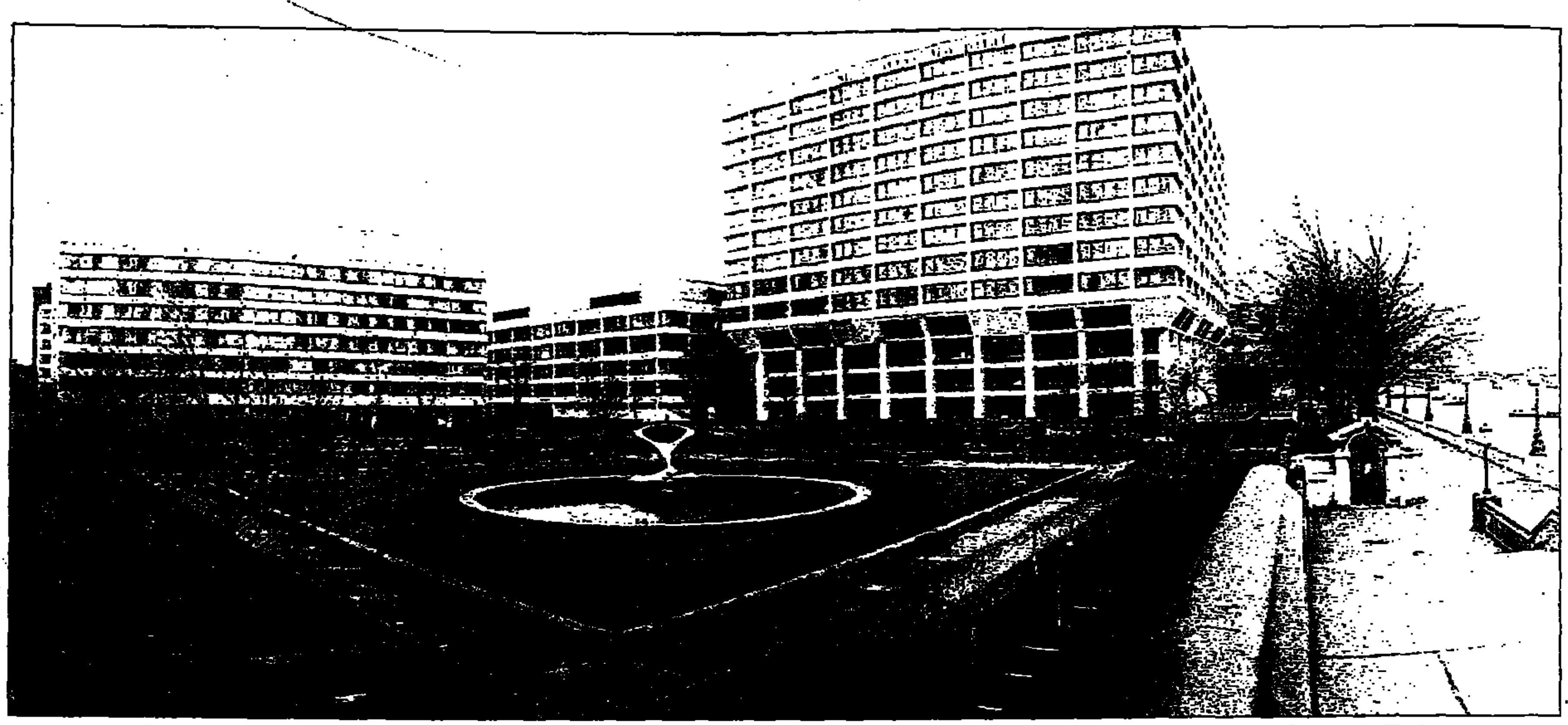
Those buildings — which include Gatwick and Newcastle airports, St Thomas' Hospital, Warwick University, as well as numerous schools, housing schemes, office blocks and shops — were not intended as spectacular personal statements, but as refined and often innovative expressions of a Modernist aesthetic in which form is at the service of function.

Allford's low public profile is explained by his decision not to practise in his own name but to spend his entire career with the distinguished architectural firm of Yorke, Rosenberg and Mardall (later YRM). He was, in particular, a protégé of F. R. S. Yorke himself, the firm's founder, who had worked with such masters of European Modernism as Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer before the war. The firm gave Allford a secure base from which to pursue his own brand of radical ideas.

David Allford was born in Sheffield. From his childhood he was always to remember the city's soot and smog, its 19th-century industrial buildings, its cramped, insanitary housing, its unemployment and poverty, and its factories, where his father had worked before dying of chronic bronchitis in retirement.

Those conditions, exacerbated by wartime bombing and austerity, were partly responsible for drawing Allford to architecture. But the other deciding factor in his choice of career came when he was 14 and was encouraged by his art teacher at High Storrs Grammar School to look at F. R. S. Yorke's book *The Modern House*. Inspired by its Utopian spirit and its stylish illustrations of clean, white buildings, he went on to study the works of Le Corbusier and Berthold Lubetkin, found out about Gropius and the Bauhaus, read poetry by Eliot, Auden and MacNeice, and saw the paintings of Klee and Kandinsky; for him, there were links between them all.

By the time he joined the School of Architecture at Sheffield University in 1944 Allford was committed to the Modern movement. His training there was interrupted by three years in the RAF, and he qualified in 1952, after which he went to work at Yorke's office, an obvious choice in view of the importance of his influence early on.



Sir Thomas' Hospital overlooking the Thames in London: an example of the refined yet innovative style espoused by Allford and YRM

In 1957, Yorke was commissioned to design Gatwick airport, a job which he entrusted to Allford, whom he made a partner in the practice a year later aged only 31. At Gatwick Allford succeeded in carrying out a first-rate modern building, of a daring glass and steel construction, airy and light, and immensely refreshing in contrast to the bulkiness of Heathrow. It received high praise as a striking piece of mdoern artchitecture.

The most notable development in the firm's style from 1960 onwards was the adoption of the white tile as a finish for concrete. This striking innovation was seized upon by Allford and a newcomer on the staff, Bryan Henderson, because it produced the smart, sharp aesthetic Allford so admired in the work of the 1920s; it had been used by his hero Le Corbusier in his Salvation Army building in Paris in 1926.

Allford introduced the tile to the interior of Gatwick first, and for many years after that every building façade designed by the practice was tiled. It became the firm's trademark; Keddies Supasave Store, which was completed in Southend in 1960, was tiled, and so too were the offices the architects built for themselves on the edge of the City in Greystoke Place in 1961.

Then, with the publication of the *Robbins Report on Higher Education* in 1964, came the university building programme and the commission to design Warwick University, a huge undertaking that became Allford's main task for the next ten years.

He was, however, involved in many other buildings, particularly after 1975 when Rosenberg and Mardall retired (Yorke had died in 1962). That year the firm was renamed YRM and Allford became the senior partner. The more anonymous name was adopted partly because it was less cumbersome than the original, but also because the partners wanted to remove the emphasis on the individual, which was misleading in such a large, multidisciplinary firm. Buildings, they insisted, were the work of a team.

This attitude ensured that Allford remained largely unknown outside his own circle — not that he had any desire to be a media star. He preferred to get the work done, and done well.

Nevertheless, he was not overlooked: he was appointed CBE in 1984, was chairman of YRM from 1987 (when it was turned into a public company) until 1989 when he took early retirement, and was visiting professor at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London. He kept in close touch with Sheffield University where he was given an honorary doctorate, and with the Architectural Association School, where he was a member of the council in the late 1970s.

He is survived by his wife, son and two daughters.

RUTH DYSON

Ruth Dyson, harpsichordist, died on August 16 aged 80. She was born on March 28, 1917.

AT A Twelfth Night concert in Dorking last year, audiences could hardly believe their eyes and ears when towards the end of an obscure 16th-century keyboard piece — written in imitation of the bagpipes — the little lady playing the harpsichord allowed the music to get slower and slower and, as the final bar arrived, let out a prolonged high-pitched squeak and flopped over the keys, lapsing into loud theatrical snores. The performer was Ruth Dyson and the ensuing applause brought the house down. This encapsulates all that was marvellous about her: a scholarly nose that sniffed out unusual works, an ability to breathe musical life into them and — above all — a sense of fun and vitality that hallmarked all of her performances.

Ruth Dyson spent her childhood and most of her adult life in Dorking where her father, a keen amateur musician, was a doctor and numbered among his patients Vaughan Williams. Her association with the composer shaped her early musical outlook and threw her into the centre of English musical life, forging lasting friendships with Gerald Finzi, Herbert Howells and Constant Lambert. In the 1930s she acted as Leith Hill Music Festival librarian and never shirked her duty of erasing pencil marks from orchestral parts after performances. Dyson always treasured the phone call from Vaughan Williams — "Now, my dear, you haven't forgotten, have you, that we're meeting on Monday at 10 to rub out the whole of *Creation*?"

Dyson studied piano with Kathleen Long and Angus Morrison at the Royal College of Music, but surprised the musical world by developing a passion for the harpsichord at a time when the instrument was regarded as a curiosity, rarely seen outside museums. She maintained that it was the fine collection of early keyboard instruments at the College which kindled her interest in the harpsichord; but her devotion became concrete when Susie Jeans — a fellow Dorking artist — gave Dyson unlimited access to her own priceless collection of keyboard instruments.

With the purchase of a Goble harpsichord she began her recitals at the Wigmore Hall in the 1940s and the gradual acquisition of further instruments over the decades — a clavichord by Thomas Goff, and a virginals by Derek Adlam among them — allowed her to branch into specialist areas. As a player she was particularly drawn to the English Baroque, and Purcell, Arne, Chilcot and notably Blow, never sounded more brilliant than under her fingers. She shared a lasting respect for this last composer with the late Handel scholar, Watkins Shaw, who for many years secretly supplied her with vintage Blow keyboard pieces he had unearthed. She championed English music all over Europe, enabling her to use her fluent German and French to explain the subtleties of the music.

As a recording artist she had a particularly long association with the BBC who crowned their relationship with her by broadcasting an electric 70th birthday recital, appropriately called *Dyson's Delight*. For Wealden Studios and Gamut she recorded large portions of the early keyboard repertoire — the complete clavichord works of Howells among them — and in 1988, *For Two to Play*, the principal keyboard duets before Mozart, with Peter Medhurst, her musical partner for the last twenty years. Medhurst remembers that a week before they were due to record, Dyson left a message on his answerphone saying that she had inadvertently stuck her right-hand fingers in the coffee grinder, but hoped that they would still go ahead. She played magnificently and only he and the engineers knew that she had recorded with four of her fingers swathed in thick bandages.

In 1964 Dyson returned to the Royal College of Music as Professor of Harpsichord and Piano and with a growing reputation as an inspired and gifted teacher attracted, over the years, a whole fleet of brilliant students — Penny Cave, Melvyn Tan, Robert Woolley and Sophie Yates — to name but a few. The College recognised her services to music by awarding her the FRCM in 1980.

Through playing piano duets she met her husband, the military historian Edward Thomas, namesake and nephew of the war poet. Thomas, her intellectual equal, stimulated interests outside her professional sphere, while she in turn brought him into her august musical circles, arranging evenings at their house of chamber music, in which he played the bassoon. He was never prouder of her than when they stood side by side doing the washing-up while at the same time listening to one of her broadcasts on Radio 3. When he died last year, a vital purpose went out of her life and two days before her own death, she said to Peter Medhurst, after a recital they had just given, that she wondered if her weariness of spirit was the product of her enduring grief for her husband.

All who knew Dyson were aware that she could never have retired. Right up to the last, she travelled the country with Medhurst giving double recitals both as fellow harpsichordist and as accompanist to his songs. She died of a heart attack at the end of a happy week's coaching on the Dolmetsch summer school — surrounded by her young students and a musical family who knew her well and loved her dearly.

Ruth Dyson is survived by her stepson and stepdaughter.

YURI NIKULIN

Yuri Nikulin, Russian comic, died on August 21 aged 75. He was born on December 18, 1921.

IT IS a measure of Yuri Nikulin's enormous popularity in Russia that even after he was taken to hospital in a critical state after a heart attack two weeks ago, his death still came as a huge shock to millions of his countrymen. While Russian politicians may come and go, the nation holds a handful of figures close to its heart, among them writers and actors, and in particular Nikulin, the greatest comic of his generation. When President Yeltsin went live on television, choking back tears to announce Nikulin's death and present the nation's condolences to his widow and son, the gesture summed up the feeling of the nation.

Yuri Vladimirovich Nikulin was born in the western Russian city of Smolensk into a generation which was to be dominated by the Second World War, during which he fought with distinction on the Finnish front. After the war he wanted to become an actor but was turned down, apparently because of his comic looks. Thankfully for his Russian fans, he turned instead to the circus, enrolling as a clown and joining the Moscow Circus in 1950 for a training that would serve him well in his subsequent film career.

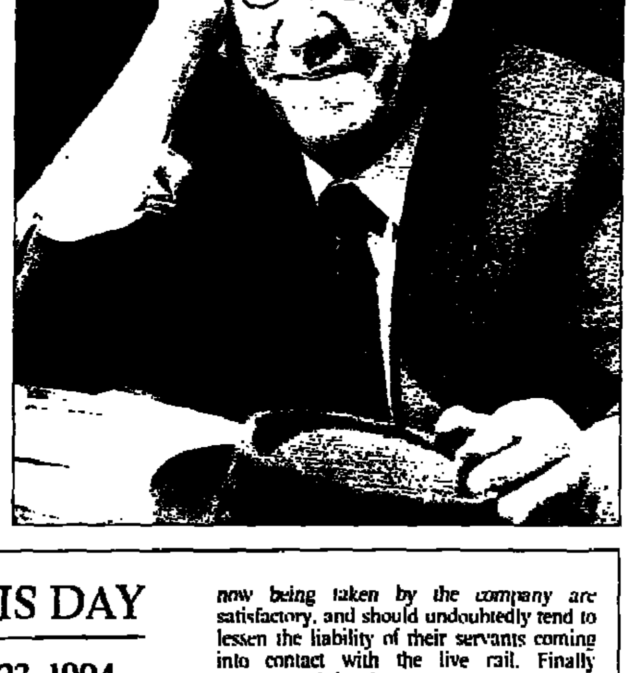
He won fame and devoted fans across the Soviet Union in the 1960s in what became the Russian equivalent of the Three Stooges, playing alongside Georgi Vitsin and Yevgeni Morgunov in a series of films following the escapades of three drunken and incompetent layabouts. His most famous role came in 1968 when he starred in the hugely popular *Diamond Arm*, about a simple Soviet worker who earns the rare privilege of going on a cruise holiday to Istanbul. The trip turns into a comic nightmare when he breaks his arm and is mistaken for a courier by a gang of diamond smugglers, who conceal the gems in his cast.

But Nikulin was not only a slapstick comic, and he will be remembered also for his more serious roles, including the children's film *Come Mukhtar*, the Russian equivalent of *Lassie*, and two war films, *They Fought for the Motherland* and *Twenty Days Without War*. Unlike the standard triumphalist Soviet war films featuring heroes conquering the Nazis, Nikulin's portrayal of the courage of the simple Russian soldier helped to humanise a conflict which cost the country millions of young lives. His ability to depict the ordinary Russian, through comedy or tragedy, and to capture something of the Russian soul, ensured his unparalleled success right through the Soviet period and the post-Communist era, when his films continue to be shown again and again. As the Russian film director Mikhail Shveister once observed, Nikulin's greatest strength, and what made him irresistible throughout the past half century was his uncompromising determination to portray life as it really was.

"I'm sure that humour helps people to survive the difficulties of life," Nikulin himself said earlier this year. "Laughter helps those who are suffering." In 1982 he returned to the Moscow Circus as artistic director and then became overall director on the famed building on Tsvetnoi Boulevard, which was extensively renovated under his direction. Although Russian children have all the modern diversions of their Western counterparts, it is a tribute to his legacy that the Circus is still sold out every weekend and that a new generation of clowns are still being trained.

Nikulin's humour will survive. Since 1936 he had collected more than 10,000 jokes and anecdotes which have been widely published and which many Russians know by heart. His body will lie in state at the Moscow Circus, where tens of thousands of Russians from across the country are expected to pay their last respects. He will be buried at the Novodevichy Cemetery in Moscow, the resting place for the nation's leading figures.

He is survived by his wife Tatyana and their son.



THE DANGER OF "LIVE" RAILS.

ON THIS DAY

August 23, 1904

There were three fatal accidents in a month in 1904 caused by people coming into contact with the "live" rail on railway property. In spite of endless warnings, such fatalities continue today.

The Board of Trade issued yesterday the official reports on three fatal accidents which occurred during June as the result of contact with electric currents on railway lines. The first report, which is signed by Major Druitt, deals with the death of Patrick Flood, on June 9, at Formby, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. Flood was trespassing on the line in spite of notice-boards pointing out the danger, and in spite of rails between 4ft. and 5ft. high. Major Druitt states that the company have protected the power rail wherever the public or company's servants (other than platelayers) have any occasion to be on business or duty along the whole of the line worked electrically. With regard to the protection of platelayers engaged, the gang Major Druitt saw at work at Formby had the lower part of their shovel handles — i.e., where the iron straps of the shovel are fastened to the handle — protected by insulating material, and this protected them from shock if they accidentally touched the power rail with their shovels when packing the sleepers. As far as experience goes at present, it does not appear necessary to provide boarding for the "live" rail for the whole length of the line in order to protect the men employed in working the traffic, repairing the line, &c., or the passengers. The second case, the report on which is signed by Lieutenant-Colonel von Donop, occurred in June 13, when Joseph Innes, porter, was killed at Manors Station on the North-Eastern Railway. Innes was found dead on the line, his head being in contact with the live rail. The report states that the spot is one at which the company's servants habitually cross the line, and precautions should be taken to guard them from danger arising from the live rail. It is to be regretted that the live rails of the Tynemouth branch had not been guarded similarly to those of the main line. The steps now being taken by the company are satisfactory, and should undoubtedly tend to lessen the liability of their servants coming into contact with the live rail. Finally Lieutenant-Colonel von Donop considers that guarding should be provided to all live rails where they pass through stations, and the company's attention is therefore drawn to the advisability of carrying out this further precaution. The third report, also signed by Lieutenant-Colonel von Donop, deals with the circumstances in which a boy, Jonas Whitehead, met with his death on June 29, when trespassing on the North-Eastern Railway, near St. Peter's Station. Although there was a subway under the line almost immediately under the spot where the accident occurred, Whitehead climbed a 5ft. wall, and his bare feet came into contact with a live rail. Lieutenant-Colonel von Donop is not prepared, at the present time at all events, to recommend the Board of Trade to call upon railway companies to guard their live rails continuously. Considering, however, that the spot at which this accident occurred is one at which trespass appears to have been for some time past very common, he thinks some steps should be taken by the company to prevent access from being so easily gained to their lines. Similar steps should also be taken at any other spots where trespass is common.

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YOUNG MILDRED ELLEN late of Cornwall House 23 Beehive Lane Ferring Worthing West Sussex died on 17th June 1996. Particulars to Messrs William Sturges & Co, Solicitors, Alliance House, 12 Caxton Street, LONDON, SW1H 0QY, before 31st October 1997.

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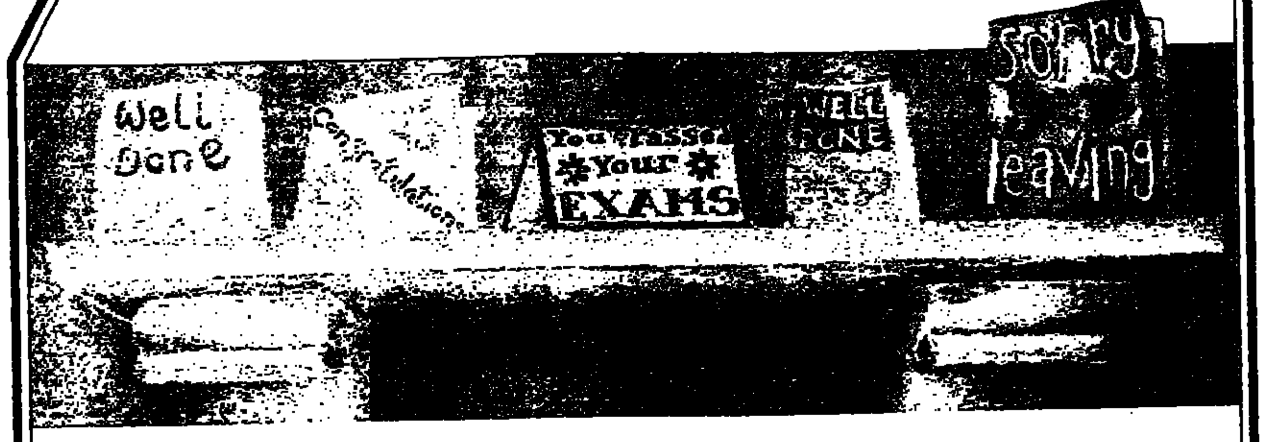

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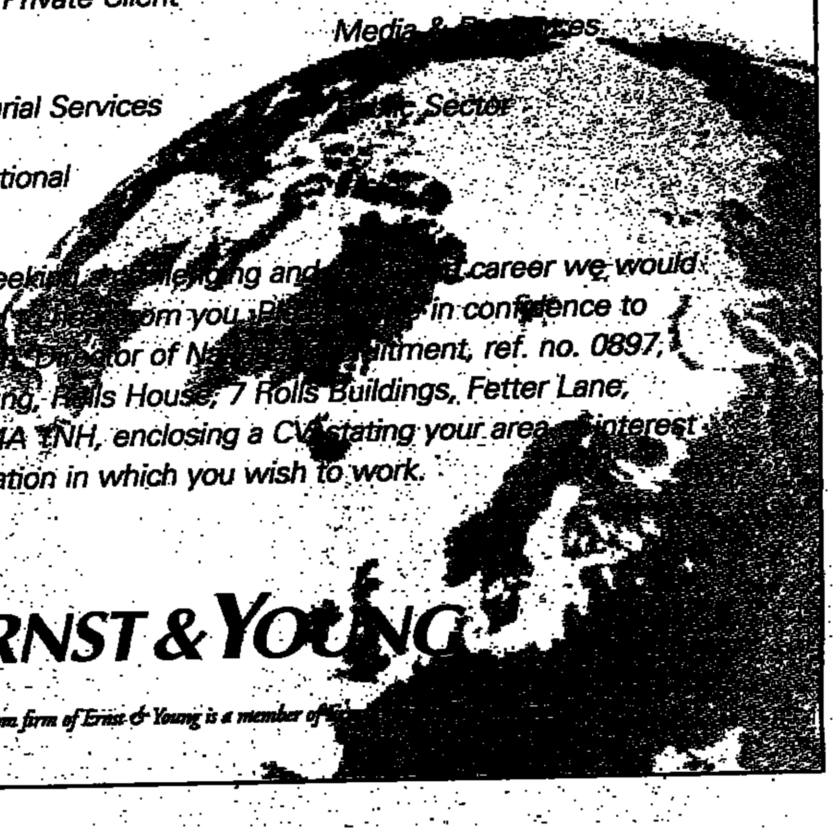

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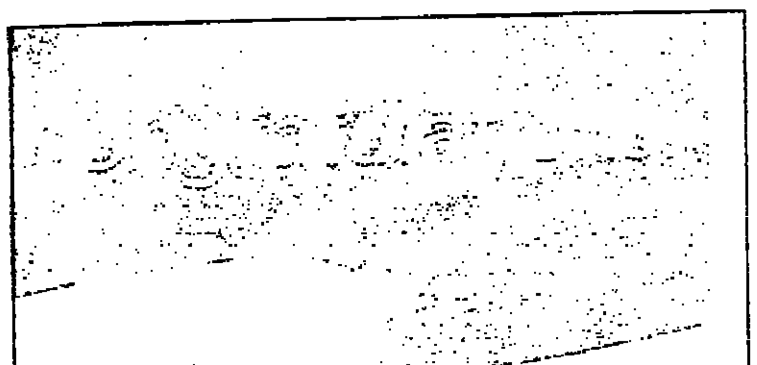

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Law Report August 23 1997 Court of Appeal

Council cannot lower aid threshold

Regina v Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, Ex parte Help The Aged and Others

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Henry

[Judgment July 31]

Where a local authority was satisfied that a person was in need of care and attention which was not otherwise available to him so as to require the provision of residential accommodation under section 21(1)(a) of the National Assistance Act 1948, lack of funds did not excuse it from performing its duty to make the appropriate arrangements.

Nor was the local authority entitled to adopt a policy whereby such a person was not to be assessed as unable to pay for accommodation if his capital exceeded a figure which was lower than the threshold prescribed by regulation.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the charity, Help The Aged, and Mrs Charlotte Blanchard from the dismissal by Mr Justice Jowitt (*The Times* March 27, 1997) of their application for judicial review of the policies adopted by Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council.

Sefton had adopted a policy for deciding whether to grant applications under section 21(1)(a) of the 1948 Act which had regard, inter alia, to its own resources. When providing accommodation through third parties under the 1948 Act the authority was required to charge the cost to the applicant and if the applicant's capital fell below £16,000 the amount payable was reduced.

The authority fixed a lower capital threshold, allowing applications from those falling below it and deferring applications from those whose capital fell between the thresholds for reconsideration at weekly intervals.

Those in provided accommodation whose capital rose above £16,000 were treated as being no longer housed under the Act and were required to reapply if their capital fell below £16,000.

Mrs Blanchard, who was in need of continuing nursing care, first applied to Sefton's allocation panel in June 1996 when her capital fell below £16,000. Although she received residential care, funded from her resources, her application was deferred until her capital fell below £1,500 in May 1997. After that date Sefton began funding her accommodation.

Mr Richard Drabble, QC and Miss Helen Mountfield for the applicants; Mr Andrew Gilbart, QC and Mr John Barrett for the local authority.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that three issues arose:

1 Whether a local authority in deciding if an elderly person was in need of care and attention, in which case it would be required to make arrangements for residential accommodation to be available to her, was entitled under section 21(1)(a) of the 1948 Act, to have regard to its limited financial resources.

2 If its limited resources were relevant, did they justify the policy adopted by Sefton?

3 Whether, in determining if "care and attention is not otherwise available" to a person an authority was entitled to taken the resources of that person into account even though the resources fell below the levels prescribed by the National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) Regulations (SI 1992 No 2977) for the purposes of sections 22 to 26 of the 1948 Act.

His Lordship referred, inter alia, to sections 21, 22 and 26 of the 1948 Act, paragraphs 20 and 28 of the 1992 Regulations and to *R v Gloucestershire County Council, Ex parte Barry* (*The Times* March 21, 1997; [1997] 2 WLR 459).

In that case the primary question, resolved in the affirmative, was whether a local authority could properly take into account its own financial resources when assessing the needs of a disabled person under section 2(1) of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970.

His Lordship said that there were obvious distinctions between the language of section 2(1) of the 1970 Act and that of sections 21 and 22 of the 1948 Act. But the words "necessary in order to meet the needs of that person" in the former Act were not dissimilar from the words in section 21 "in need of care and attention".

However the word "necessary" in section 2(1) provided an emphasis which was absent from section 21 and many of the matters dealt with in section 2(1), although important to the recipient, were not of the same significance as accommodation itself which was dealt with in section 21.

When consideration was given as to how Sefton devised its policy it was clear that the words in section 21 "in need of care and attention" could have no application to that policy.

The policy was not to use its financial position to provide a standard against which to assess need but to defer consideration and payment, because of its lack of resources, where it accepted that there was a need of care and attention.

Under section 21 once the authority had come to the conclusion that the person concerned was in need of care and attention which was not otherwise available to him then residential accommodation was to be provided.

There was no doubt that Mrs Blanchard was in need of care and attention. While fully accepting, in accordance with the *Barry* case, that it was possible to perform a cost benefit analysis in relation to a person's need of services listed in section 2(1) of the 1970 Act and then decide if they were necessary, taking into account the resources of the authority, it was much more difficult to perform the same exercise when deciding whether a person was in need of care and attention.

However having regard to the reasoning of Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Clyde in the *Barry* case, his Lordship was compelled to conclude that there was a limited subjective element in making the assessment of whether the ailments of the person concerned did or did not collectively establish a need for care and attention.

The first issue was therefore to be answered in the affirmative.

However, in the present case, it was clear that Sefton accepted that Mrs Blanchard met its threshold as a person in need of care and attention. What it sought to do was to say that because of its lack of resources it was not prepared to meet the duty which was placed on it by the section.

It was not entitled to do that. Once the authority was satisfied that Mrs Blanchard was "in need of care and attention" unless it could rely on the words "which is not otherwise available to them" it was under an obligation to fulfil its duty and a lack of resources was no excuse.

The second issue was therefore to be determined adversely to Sefton.

Determining the third issue also adversely to Sefton his Lordship said that if Mrs Blanchard had had no capital Sefton would, notwithstanding its lack of resources, have undoubtedly performed its section 21 duty.

Its refusal to do so was not dependent on her condition but her capital resources. That was shown by the fact that once her capital resources were reduced below £1,500 it provided the financial assistance she sought.

The regime provided for under section 22 read with section 26 provided a different scale for judging a person's ability to pay. Sefton was not entitled to provide its own scale and its approach totally defeated the intent of section 22.

Sections 22 and 26 and the 1992 Regulations determined the authority's liability once Mrs Blanchard's capital fell below £16,000. It then became under an obligation to provide financial assistance.

The statutory scheme rested on the assumption that care and attention was not to be regarded as "otherwise available" if the person concerned was unable to pay for it according to the means test regime provided by section 22.

Section 22(5) required Sefton to give effect to the regulations. That Sefton had not done. He would therefore allow the appeal.

Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Henry agreed.

Solicitors: Mrs Jean Gould, Bloomsbury; Mr Michael Scott, Southport.

Views do not disqualify judge

Regina v Browne

Before Lord Justice McCowan, Mr Justice Ognall and Mr Justice Maurice Kay

[Judgment July 29]

A judge was not disqualified from trying a case just because he held personal views which might be touched upon in the case.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in a reserved judgment dismissing the appeal of Nicole Natalie Browne against her convictions on February 8, 1996 at the Central Criminal Court (Judge Coombe and a jury) of conspiracy to cause actual bodily harm, after a plea of guilty, and robbery and possession of a revolver while committing robbery, which she had denied.

Mr Anthony Arlidge, QC and Mr Paul Hardy, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Christopher R. Mitchell for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN said that the appellant paid three men to visit her former boyfriend to assault and rob him. When arrested she made some admissions but when interviewed at the police station, on her solicitor's advice, she remained silent.

The first ground of appeal was based on remarks made by the judge before the case started.

He had said that for many years he had thought that the right to silence, as it was exercised, was a charter for the dishonest and never helped the innocent. He also expressed the opinion that it could not be lawful for a solicitor to advise his client to say "no comment" to every question.

He refused an application to disqualify himself, in the light of those remarks, from trying the case.

The judge was a very experienced judge in criminal cases. He clearly formed the opinion that his personally held views would not in any way prevent him from trying the case in a fair and unbiased manner.

He was entitled to come to that decision and try the case. Proof that he was right was to be seen in the fact that the appellant was given a fair and unbiased trial. All the grounds of appeal failed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Redbridge.

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THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY AUGUST 23 1997

NEWS

New CJD strain threatens thousands

■ The number of cases of CJD could run into thousands, scientists fear, after the disclosure that a woman who has been vegetarian for 11 years is *suffering from the new strain.*

A study published earlier this year predicted a total of between 156 and 213 cases with a ten-year incubation period but between 7,000 and 88,000 with a 25-year period .... **Page 1**

Saatchi gets £16m to promote dome

■ Peter Mandelson faced a left-wing backlash after it emerged that the Tories favourite advertising agency, M & C Saatchi, had been awarded the £16 million contract for the Greenwich dome. The German company, sacked from the contract to make the dome's skin, is seeking £2 million in damages .... **Page 1**

Rake's progress

Alan Clark, the Tory MP who said that he deserved to be horsewhipped for his adultery, is set to convert to Catholicism....... **Page 1**

Blairs' horseplay

Tony and Cherie Blair were unsure how to react when a French village presented them with a five-month-old foal.......... **Page 3**

'Lake' boat seized

Police seized a boat belonging to Gordon Park after they confirmed that his first wife was the "Lady in the Lake" .... **Page 4**

Sex attacker jailed

A serial sex attacker who struck within weeks of being released from prison has been jailed for life at Bristol Crown Court...... **Page 7**

Oxford blues

An Oxford undergraduate who dealt in drugs from his college room faces a prison sentence for supplying Ecstasy and cannabis .... **Page 6**

Drought debate

Gardeners are divided by Thames Water's anti-drought campaign in which it advises people to put ice *cubes in their hanging baskets* and newspapers over their borders .... **Page 8**

Church of comedy

The secret home of British television comedy for the past 20 years has been revealed as a church hall in West London.......... **Page 9**

Bribe allegation

A former Arkansas state trooper claims he was offered $100,000 to ensure favourable testimony in the Whitewater case.......... **Page 12**

Evacuation doubt

A plan to evacuate those wishing to leave Montserrat appeared to be in jeopardy .... **Page 13**

Mir repaired

Two cosmonauts completed repairs to give the Mir space station a new lease of life .... **Page 14**

Style pilgrims flock to Versace's grave

■ The grave of Gianni Versace, the fashion designer murdered in Miami five weeks ago, is becoming an increasingly popular destination on the Italian tourist itinerary as hundreds of visitors flock to Lake Como.......... **Page 15**

ANDREW HASSON

Bathers enjoy the hot weather on Brighton's nude beach yesterday. Forecasters warned of thunderstorms over the Bank Holiday weekend

OPINION

A banker's eye: How will young Scots react when they calculate that the amount they might pay in tartan tax, if invested over 40 years of working life, would yield £300,000 .... **Page 19**

Poisoned legacy: More than 50 years after the Second World War, the history of atrocities still contains incomplete chapters .... **Page 19**

LETTERS

Tax and the poor: significance of C.S. Lewis's "wardrobe"; teaching English grammar .... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: Sheep subsidies are ruining Cader Idris, the loveliest peak in Wales .... **Page 18**

Simon Barnes: A vegetarian has contracted the "new" CJD — but he won't change his principles.......... **Page 18**

Giles Worsley: Why we should keep the heart of Whitehall public and open .... **Page 18**

OBITUARIES

David Allford, architect; ***Ruth Dyson***, harpsichordist; **Yuri Nikulin**, Russian comic.......... **Page 21**

BUSINESS

British Telecom: The merger between BT and MCI was yesterday salvaged after BT forced a reduction of more than £3 billion in the price .... **Page 29**

Mean move: Vince Power, the music venue tycoon, plans to float Mean Fiddler, his events company .... **Page 29**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 76.9 points to close at *4901.1. Sterling's trade*-weighted index rose from 101.6 to 101.7 after a rise from *$1.5873 to $1.6060 but a fall* from DM2.9236 to DM2.9173 .... **Page 32**

SPORT

Cricket: Phil Tufnell took seven *for 64 as England dis*missed Australia for 218 at the Oval.......... **Page 56**

Football: Steve McManaman hopes for a return to normality today, when he gets back to playing .... **Page 53**

Rugby union: Geoff Cooke, the former England manager, criticised the Twickenham hierarchy for its handling of Jack Rowell .... **Page 47**

Swimming: Paul Palmer won a bronze medal in the 400 *metres freestyle at the Euro*pean championships in Seville .... **Page 45**

ARTS

People power: Richard *Morrison on the crimes* committed in the name of public art .... **Page 17**

Flat fizz: The winner of the Perrier Award for the best comedy act of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe is announced tonight, but the shortlist contains few real discoveries .... **Page 17**

Prom pair: Osmo Vanska *and the BBC Scottish Sym*phony Orchestra in a Sibelius double bill; and Sir Charles Mackerras and the London Philharmonic play Brahms.......... **Page 17**

SECTIONS

MAGAZINE

Next year's model: The face of '98.......... **Page 6**

House style: The Georgian home.......... **Page 30**

Food & drink: ..... **Page 33**

Weekend

Jumbo casting: An elephantine film.......... **Pages 1**

Keep cool: Summer dresses .... **Page 3**

Property: California dreaming .... **Page 7**

10 15

The Cardigans: Not just sugary Swedes .... **Page 5**

Fandemonium: ..... **Page 8**

Anne Fine .... **Page 10**

directory

East-West: British-born Asian artists .... **Page 4**

Books .... **Pages 9-14**

What's on .... **Pages 15-19**

TV Guide .... **Pages 23-51**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,566

A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.

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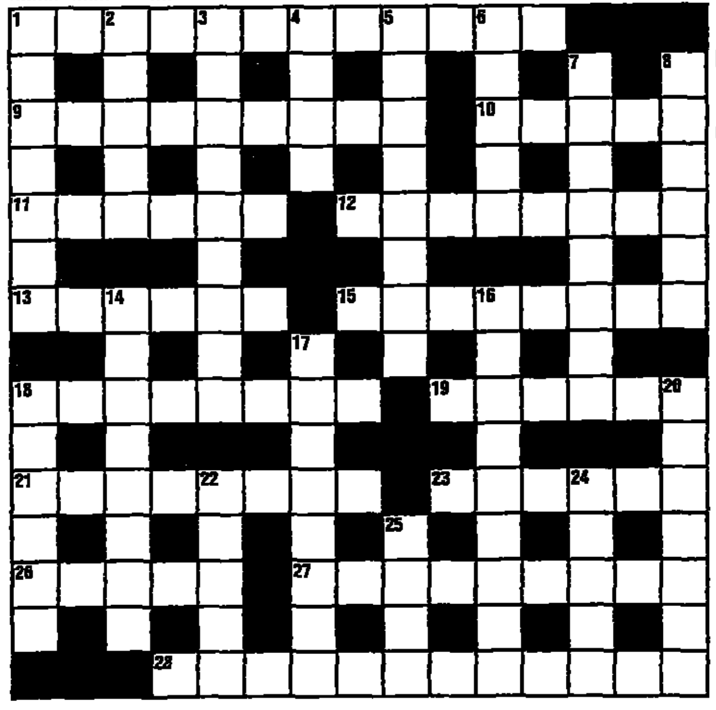


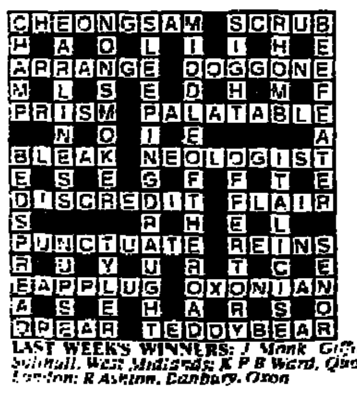
ACROSS

1 Keeping quiet, having doubt (12).
9 About to call doctor – get on back inside (9).
10 Serious shortage of Bordeaux wine (5).
11 Carried round island (6).
12 Excess prayer engulfing god (8).
13 Worth of house quietly reviewed, after losing money (6).
15 Gossip the foundation for Xenophon's work? (8).
18 Dray put in area behind house (8).
19 *Prison has a convict on the way* (6).
21 The plane could be a jumbo (8).
23 Selected soldiers in dock? (6).
26 Randomly choose length of extended speech (5).
27 Love getting in quickly to build hi-tech industry (9).
28 Novel will complete book collection (3,9).

DOWN

1 Knock up competent story (7).
2 Unsatisfying not to get a start in US, though keen (5).
3 Advanced to capture home, with serious intent (9).
4 One in front, strutting (4).
5 Follow note in Philippine language (3,5).
6 *Rough time? Nothing in it* (5).
7 Roundabout where vehicle runs over bird (8).
8 Old lovers race home (2,4).
14 Statesman as initial alternative for government (5,3).
16 Hit the water here on the Thames (9).
17 Region in which a couple of partners perform (8).
18 Be about to offer a mineral (6).
20 Opera composer not quite taken in by pig of a librettist (7).
22 Cut and share round (5).
24 Saw a defunct oath resurrected (5).
25 Members needed by gun club (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,560



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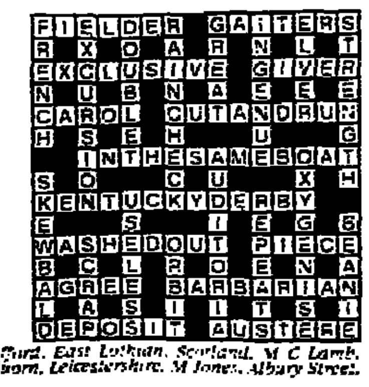

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LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: J Monk, Gifford, East Lothian, Scotland; M C Lamb, Solihull, West Midlands; K P B Ward, Quorn, Leicestershire; M Jones, Albury Street, London; R Ashton, Banbury, Oxon

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises 5 59 am — Sun sets 8 07 pm
Moon sets 12.23 pm — Moon rises 11 47 pm

Last quarter August 25

London 8 07 pm to 6 02 am
Bristol 8 15 pm to 6 12 am
Edinburgh 8 22 pm to 6 21 am
Manchester 8 20 pm to 6 04 am
Penzance 8 28 pm to 6 25 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 6 00 am — Sun sets: 8 05 pm
Moon sets 1.35 pm — Moon rises 11.23 pm

Last quarter tomorrow

London 8 05 pm to 6 03 am
Bristol 8 14 pm to 6 13 am
Edinburgh 8 22 pm to 6 23 am
Manchester 8 17 pm to 6 06 am
Penzance 8 23 pm to 6 26 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	08 32	7.3	18 16	7.3
Aberdeen	05 32	4.5	18 01	4.1
Avonmouth	11 23	13.2	23 52	12.9
Belfast	03 34	3.7	15 30	3.3
Cardiff	11 14	12.2	23 38	12.0
Devonport	10 07	5.4	22 27	5.4
Dover	03 06	6.6	15 24	6.9
Dublin N Wall	03 32	4.2	16 09	4.0
Falmouth	09 38	5.2	21 58	5.2
Greenock	04 33	3.3	17 07	2.6
Harwich	02 56	4.2	15 09	4.3
Holyhead	02 17	5.9	14 46	5.4
Hull (Albert D)	[illegible]	[illegible]	22 55	8.4
Ilfracombe	10 15	9.1	22 40	9.0
Kings Lynn	11 27	7.1	23 09	6.3
Leith	06 45	5.8	13 18	5.4
Liverpool	02 15	9.6	15 37	9.1
Lowestoft	01 02	2.4	13 34	2.7
Margate	04 15	4.7	16 27	4.8
Milford Haven	10 37	6.5	22 55	6.8
Newquay	09 32	6.5	21 51	6.8
Oban	09 13	3.7	22 21	3.7
Penzance	08 51	5.2	21 15	5.4
Portland	[illegible]	1.9	23 22	1.9
Portsmouth	03 15	4.7	15 53	4.7
Shoreham	03 15	6.0	15 42	6.3
Southampton	02 45	4.7	15 19	4.6
Swansea	10 39	9.5	22 57	9.4
Tees	07 43	5.6	20 27	5.1
Walton-on-Naze	03 50	4.4	16 30	4.4

All times BST. Heights in metres

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: highest day temp: Bedford 27C (81F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland 15C (59F); highest rainfall: Trawsgoed, Cardiganshire, [illegible]; highest sunshine: Leuchars, Fife, 11.9hr

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FORECAST

☐ **London, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands**: a mainly *cloudy day with a few brief bright* spells and one or two outbreaks of showery rain. Wind light, southwesterly. Max 25C (77F).

☐ **SE England, E Anglia, E England**: there will be a good deal of cloud, but a few bright or sunny spells are also likely in the afternoon. Wind light, southwesterly. Max 26C (79F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales**: a dull day with *extensive hill and coastal fog. There* will be rain at times, particularly in the morning. Wind light, southwest. Max 22C (72F).

☐ **NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, NE England**: rather cloudy with rain at *times in the morning. Cloudy later with* rain confined to hills Wind light, southwest. Max 21C (70F).

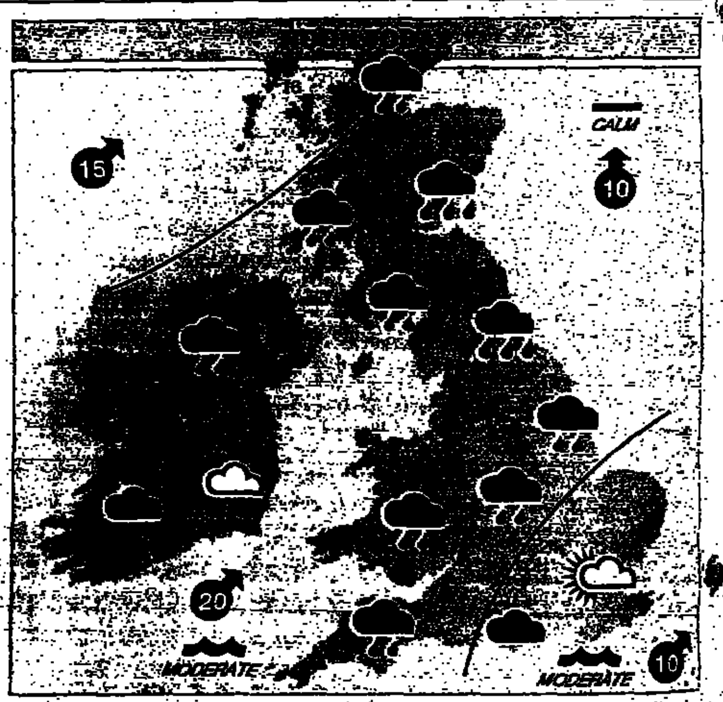
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands**: a cloudy start with outbreaks of rain. The afternoon should see some drier and brighter weather. Wind light, variable. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland**: occasional sunny spells interspersed with a few showers. Wind moderate, southwest. Max 18C (4F).

☐ **Northern Ireland**: any morning *rain should die out to leave a mainly* dry afternoon. Wind light, southwest. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **Irish Republic**: Rain giving way to brighter weather. Wind light or moderate, northwesterly.

☐ **Outlook**: North and west mostly *dry and bright on Sunday; south and* east cloudy. Heavy rain expected to spread from south on Monday.



AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

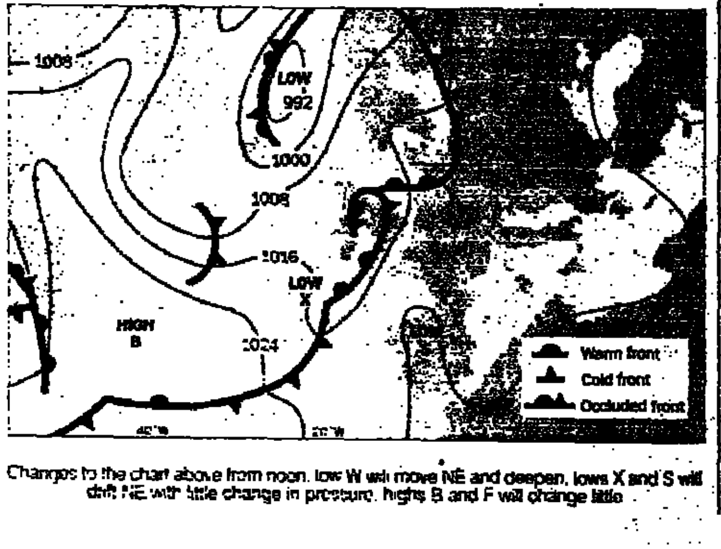
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	X	-	23	73	s
Anglesey	6.2	0.01	18	64	s
Aspatria	8.0	-	19	66	b
Aviemore	11.1	0.01	20	68	s
Belfast	4.6	0.01	20	68	b
Birmingham	5.8	0.04	25	77	b
Bognor R	1.2	0.04	24	75	c
Bournem'th	2.0	0.08	23	73	b
Bristol	4.1	0.04	24	75	b
Buxton	8.0	0.12	21	70	s
Cardiff	3.7	0.13	23	73	f
Clacton	4.3	0.01	23	73	c
Cleethorpes	7.0	0.12	24	75	s
Colwyn Bay	6.5	0.01	19	66	s
Cromer	7.1	0.15	21	70	s
Dunbar	8.5	-	21	70	b
Eastbourne	1.0	0.01	21	70	c
Edinburgh	X				
Eskdalemuir	6.3	-	19	66	s
Exmouth	0.1	0.01	23	73	c
Falmouth	1.0	0.01	21	70	c
Fishguard	2.5	0.11	19	66	b
Folkestone	0.4	-	21	70	c
Glasgow	3.9	0.01	21	70	b
Guernsey	0.9	0.01	23	73	c
Hastings	0.2	-	21	70	b
Hayling I.	1.7	0.05	23	73	c
Herne Bay	0.1	0.01	26	79	sh
Hove	0.7	0.01	21	70	c
Hunstanton	X	0.15	25	77	s
Isle-of-man	10.6	-	19	66	s
Isle-of-wight	0.5	0.06	22	72	r
Jersey	2.7	0.01	25	77	c
Kinloss	7.5	0.01	21	70	s
Leeds	9.8	-	24	75	s
Lerwick	7.7	0.02	16	61	s
Leuchars	11.9	-	22	72	s
Littlehmptn	0.8	0.01	23	73	c
London	0.1	0.01	24	75	c
Lowestoft	3.5	0.07	22	72	b
Manchester	7.2	0.19	23	73	s
Margate	-	0.03	23	73	du
Minehead	1.6	0.01	24	75	c
Morecambe	10.5	0.06	20	68	s
Newcastle	7.1	0.01	21	70	s
Newquay	X				
Norwich	4.1	0.20	25	77	b
Oxford	X	0.01	26	79	sh
Penzance	X	0.04	20	68	d
Poole	0.6	0.08	25	77	c
Prestatyn	X				
Ross-o-wye	5.8	0.02	25	77	s
Salcombe	-	0.01	23	73	c
Saunton Snd	3.9	0.09	22	72	s
Scarboro'	X				
Shrewsbury	8.1	0.12	24	75	s
Skegness	8.5	-	24	75	s
Southend	-	0.01	26	79	c
Southport	8.1	0.04	20	68	s
Southsea	3.1	0.04	26	79	sh
Stornoway	3.2	0.07	18	64	sh
Swanage	0.3	0.04	22	72	d
Teignmouth	-	0.01	23	73	c
Tenby	1.0	0.09	19	66	c
Tiree	7.4	0.02	17	63	sh
Torquay	0.2	0.03	24	75	c
Tynemouth	X				
West-s-mare	2.2	0.13	24	75	b
Weymouth	-	0.09	20	68	b

ABROAD

	C	F	
Ajaccio	25	32	s
Akrotiri	27	81	s
Alex'dria	30	86	s
Algiers	33	91	s
Amst'dm	27	81	s
Athens	28	82	s
B Aires	9	48	f
Bahrain	37	99	s
Bangkok	34	93	f
Barbados	X		
Barcelona	28	82	s
Beirut	28	82	f
Belgrade	26	79	s
Berlin	29	84	s
Bermuda	30	86	s
Biarritz	27	81	f
Bord'x	29	84	f
Brussels	29	84	s
Budapst	27	81	f
Cairo	32	90	s
Cape Tn	14	57	f
Ch'church	4	39	f
Chicago	20	68	c
Cologne	27	81	s
Corfu	27	81	f
C'phagn	26	79	s
Dublin	17	63	f
Dubrovnik	25	77	f
Faro	25	77	s
Florence	30	86	s
Frankfurt	28	82	s
Funchal	24	75	s
Geneva	26	79	f
Gibraltar	26	79	f
Helsinki	24	75	s
Hong K	26	79	r
Innsbrck	24	75	f
Istanbul	25	77	s
Jeddah	36	97	s
Jo'burg	21	70	s
L Angels	24	75	f
L Palmas	26	79	s
Le Toquet	25	77	s
Lisbon	25	77	s
Locarno	24	75	s
Luxembg	27	81	s
Luxor	38	100	s
Madrid	32	90	s
Majorca	32	90	s
Malaga	27	81	s
Malta	26	79	f
Melb'rne	14	57	f
Mexico C	21	70	s
Miami	31	88	f
Milan	27	81	f
Montreal	16	61	f
Moscow	22	72	f
Munich	25	77	f
N Delhi	34	93	f
N York	21	70	f
Nairobi	23	73	c
Naples	28	82	f
Nice	27	81	s
Oslo	26	79	f
Paris	31	88	s
Peking	32	90	s
Perth	18	64	s
Prague	25	77	s
Reykjavik	14	57	f
Rhodes	28	82	s
Rio de J	26	79	f
Riyadh	41	106	s
Rome	28	82	f
S Fr'sco	20	68	s
S Paulo	X		
Salzburg	24	75	f
Santiago	14	57	s
Seoul	23	73	r
Sing'por	28	82	f
St'kholm	28	82	f
Strasb'rg	29	84	s
Sydney	16	61	c
Tangier	25	77	f
Tel Aviv	29	84	f
Tenerife	25	77	s
Tokyo	32	90	s
Toronto	18	64	c
Tunis	30	86	f
Valencia	30	86	f
Vanc'ver	19	66	f
Venice	23	73	f
Vienna	27	81	s
Warsaw	24	75	s
Wash'ton	X		
Wel'ngton	8	46	X
Zurich	26	79	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Thursday X = not available



Changes to the chart above from noon, low W will move NE and deepen, lows X and S will drift NE with little change in pressure, highs B and F will change little

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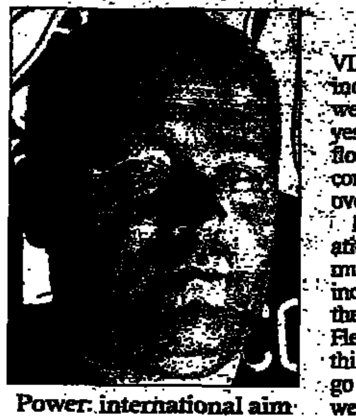
BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

SATURDAY AUGUST 23 1997

Mean Fiddler plays the flotation tune



Power: international aim

By Chris Ayres

VINCE POWER, the music industry tycoon behind this weekend's *Reading* Festival, yesterday revealed plans to float Mean Fiddler, his events company, to raise cash for overseas expansion.

Mean Fiddler is the organisation that runs several big music festivals in Britain, including Tribal Gathering, the Phoenix Festival and Fleadh. Mr Power said: "I think the only way to do it is to go to the market with what we've got. I think we will have a lot of interest; we should hopefully be on the market by November."

Mr Power, 50, who is worth an estimated £30 million, built up his reputation as a music industry heavyweight in the 1980s by establishing a chain of London music venues, including The Forum and The Clapham Grand. He was also the driving force behind the sell-out comeback tour of the Sex Pistols last year.

Mean Fiddler's flotation plans come amid heightened competition between festival organisers, with many fashionable brands pouring money into big events to target a captive audience between the ages of 16 and 24.

Mike Mathieson, a director of FFI, the agency that organises sponsorship for Mean Fiddler, said: "Sponsorship deals are now worth a lot of money, whereas, in the past, companies thought that it was very risky to get involved in music or music festivals because *they were too associated with sex and drugs*."

Each year, rivals to Mean Fiddler's events gain more support, with festivals such as the Virgin-sponsored V97 — held simultaneously in Leeds and Chelmsford last weekend — attracting about 200,000 fans.

V97, which has been running for only two years, was created for Virgin by the marketing company KLP, which also created T in the Park, the Tennents-sponsored festival that was held near Gleneagles, on Tayside, in July.

It is estimated that, by the end of the summer, nearly three million people will have gone to more than 20 festivals, paying between £28 and £70 for tickets to events that can last up to four days. In spite of the growing competition, events organised by Mean Fiddler have enjoyed an influx of cash from leading brands, with this year's Reading Festival attracting sponsorship from Virgin Megastores, Dr Martens and Radio 1.

The company, which yesterday refused to give any further details on its planned flotion, *aims to capitalise on this* sponsorship revenue by staging its events in cities all over the world, among them New York and Melbourne.

BT forces £3bn cut in MCI merger

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

THE merger of British Telecom and America's MCI was brought back from the brink yesterday after BT *negotiated* a £3 billion cut in *the price it must pay for MCI*.

BT shareholders now seem certain to back the deal, which was reworked after a surprise profits warning from MCI last month. BT shares rose 23½p to 436p, with 180 million shares traded, as the size of the *cut — up to 25 per cent* depending on share price and exchange fluctuations — exceeded expectations.

Despite the debacle, bonus payments promised to BT and MCI executives will remain intact. For Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive, completion of *the deal could mean an extra* £500,000 over the next two years. For MCI senior executives there is a £100 million bonus pot on offer.

The shares and cash offer for the 80 per cent of MCI shares that BT does not al*ready own changes* with the *relative* share price of the companies and exchange rates. At Thursday's closing price, when the new terms were set out, the deal was worth £11 billion against the £14 billion previously agreed.

MCI, which had previously refused to accept a lower price, *declined* to say why *it had* climbed down so abruptly. Both sides put on a united front. Tim Price, president of MCI, said that the new terms had been struck to ensure "a win-win" situation for shareholders and customers.

Institutional shareholders *have put pressure on BT to* renegotiate the merger after the July profits warning from MCI, which said that its losses in the local markets would double to $800 million (£500 million).

The extent of the price cut surprised the City. Most inves*tors welcomed the revised* terms but some believe damage has been done to BT's credibility. One said: "This is a sensible compromise that goes some way to address BT shareholder concerns. But the credibility of management has been dented . . ."

Sir Iain Vallance, chairman of BT, said that the two companies had emerged from the renegotiations with a stronger relationship for having faced difficulties. *Sir Peter* denied the *new* price meant that BT had got the sum wildly wrong in the first place. He said: "This is clearly a fast-changing marketplace."

BT said that synergies from the deal would deliver £1.5 billion over the first five years, *running at £500 million a year* in the fifth year.

Analysts have welcomed the new terms. Jim McCafferty at Hoare Govett, said: "This is a lot more of a renegotiaton that we expected." Richard Jones at Yamaichi said: "This seems a good deal given the hefty reduction in the price."

Sir Peter added that all the management positions set by the last merger arrangement will remain. BT and MCI will seek approval for the new terms from shareholders at extraordinary general meetings in November — a year *after the first merger deal*.

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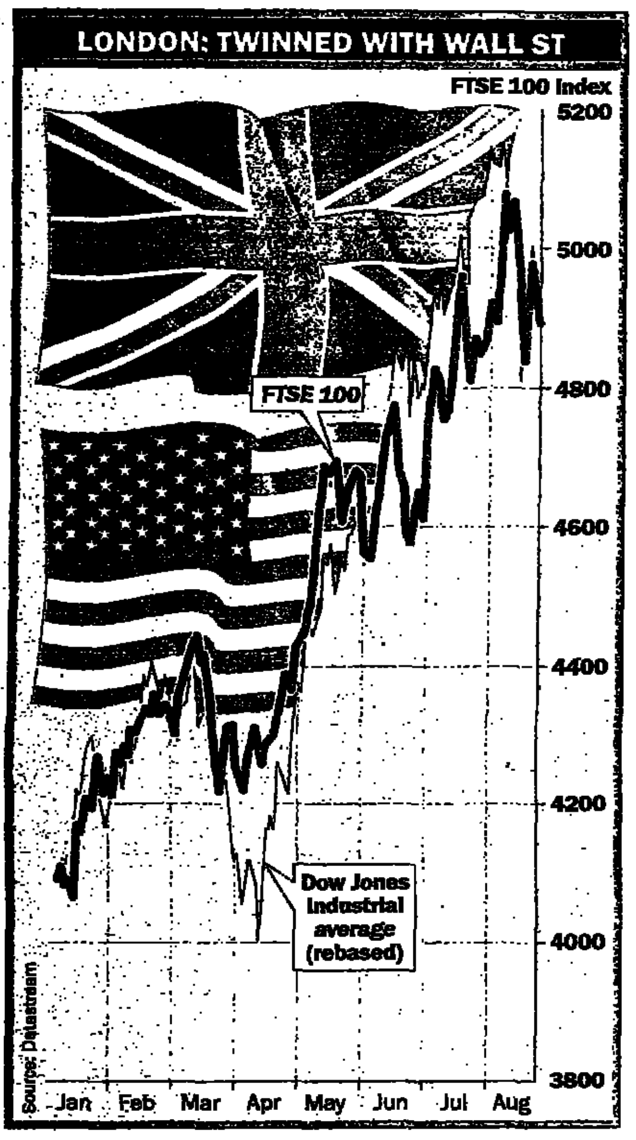
BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FTSE 100	4901.1	(-76.9)
Yield	3.37%	
FTSE All share	2312.11	(-30.39)
Nikkei	18650.17	(-506.95)
New York:		
Dow Jones	7781.76	(+112.19)*
S&P Composite	912.39	(-12.86)*
US RATE		
Federal Funds	5½%*	(5⅞%)
Long Bond	96⁷⁄₃₂*	(97⁷⁄₃₂)
Yield	6.67*	(6.61%)
LONDON MONEY		
3-mth interbank	7¼%	(7⁵⁄₁₆%)
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	114⁸⁄₃₂	(114¹⁴⁄₁₆)
STERLING		
New York:		
$	1.6115*	(1.5920)
London:		
$	1.6053	(1.5872)
DM	2.9171	(2.9236)
FFr	9.8281	(9.8561)
SFr	2.4066	(2.4062)
Yen	188.45	(186.63)
£ Index	101.7	(101.6)
DOLLAR		
London:		
DM	1.8145*	(1.8365)
FFr	6.1120*	(6.1945)
SFr	1.4877*	(1.5138)
Yen	117.15*	(117.20)
$ Index	106.5	(108.2)
Tokyo close Yen 117.28		
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Nov)	$18.65	($18.65)
GOLD		
London close	$324.85	($324.05)

* denotes midday trading price



LONDON: TWINNED WITH WALL ST

Source: Datastream

Shares follow Dow for third Friday retreat

By Graham Serjeant, Financial Editor

WITH A sense of inevitability, *shares prices again retreated* round the globe on the coat-tails of Wall Street. Shoulder-shrugging traders, perhaps prematurely, treated the third successive Friday drop as an embarrassingly bad August habit rather than any sign of incipient collapse.

New York again played the lead. Top shares had fallen by an average of 1.6 per cent by lunchtime, but these losses merely gobbled up the gains made since the previous Friday's drop. At that stage, the Dow-Jones industrial average had shed 128 points in a morning to 7,766, yet was still 1 per cent higher than the previous Friday's close of 7,695.

Share price falls again went hand in hand with a receding *dollar. It slid nearly two cents* against sterling, to $1.6060, and by 2½ pfennings against the mark, to DM 1.81. The pound eased against the mark too after the Bundesbank signalled more aggressive tactics on Thursday, leaving the Sterling index a touch higher.

A worrying feature was that *bond prices also edged down* in London and New York.

The London Stock Exchange followed a similar pattern as it has done most of this year. The FTSE 100 index lost 76.9 points, or 1.5 per cent, to 4,901.1. Dealers were keen to square their books for Monday when London is closed and other centres open.

London's blue chip shares still finished the week on average 0.7 per cent higher than they started. For all the weekly alarums, leading shares are much as they were at the beginning of the month.

Earlier, Tokyo had followed Thursday's drop in New York. The Nikkei 225-share index shed 507 points, or 2.6 per cent, to 18,650. The Nikkei lost *3.5 per cent on the week*, continuing its relapse from about 2,050 since mid-July. On the Continent, most bourses anticipated further trouble in America. In Amsterdam, the AEX index lost 3.35 per cent.

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WEEKEND MONEY

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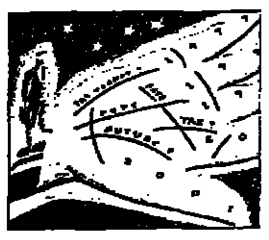
Anne Ashworth on the dangers of inertia



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Receiver in at Village Nurseries

ABOUT 750 jobs came under threat yesterday as administrative receivers were called into English *Village* Nurseries, a fresh produce supplier 33 per cent owned by Geest, the publicly quoted fruit group (George Sivell writes).

The company is a big producer of fresh tomatoes and supplies them to supermarkets. Buchler Phillips, *the administrative receiver*, said that it had been appointed after several months of very difficult trading conditions and after a big litigation claim against one of English Village Nurseries' fertiliser suppliers over an allegedly faulty product.

Simon Freakley, of Buchler Phillips, said: "Interest has always been shown in the business by potential buyers and we are confident *that the business will be sold* as a going concern. It is very much business as usual and we shall be working with the *company's management* and staff to ensure that the business is not disrupted."

Manufacturers boost spending on investment

By Rachel Holmes

MANUFACTURING investment has remained robust in spite of pressure on exports from the higher pound.

British manufacturers invested £3.62 billion between April and June, according to Office of National Statistics *data released yesterday. The* figures represent a 10 per cent increase over the first three months of the year, and a 26 per cent rise over the same period last year.

A different set of official figures released on Thursday showed investment overall is stagnating, with gross fixed capital formation rising by only 0.1 per cent in the three months to the end of June. This moribund performance *appears to be attributed large*ly to subdued government and housing expenditure. Business investment — which comprises manufacturing, some services industries, construction and other production industries — as a whole grew by 4.8 per cent quarter-on-quarter, and 8.5 per cent year-on-year. While capital expenditure by services remained broadly constant at £8.15 billion, spending by construction and manufacturing firms rose *dramatically. In construction*, capital expenditure rose 48 per cent on first quarter figures, and 19 per cent on the second quarter of 1996.

The main reason for spending on such fixed assets is to increase efficiency; expanding capacity is a relatively unimportant concern. Domestic demand is strong, but the appreciation of sterling has placed a premium on maintaining low costs so as to *compete at home and abroad*. Globalisation and the low inflation environment have also had an impact. Firms now lack the pricing power to be able to pass on cost increases, currency-induced or not.

Channel 5 'will be worth £1bn'

By Jason Nissé

CHANNEL 5, the television channel launched only at Easter, is already worth £440 million and will be worth as much as £1 billion by the year 2000, according to analysis being presented today by a leading bank.

This compares with a budgeted investment of only £300 million into the station by its four shareholders — Pearson, United News & Media, CLT, the Luxembourg-based broadcaster, and Warburg Pincus, the US investment bank.

In a speech being given today at the Edinburgh International Television Festival, Anthony Fry, managing director *of* Barclays de Zoete Wedd, will dismiss what he describes as "self-serving criticisms" of Channel 5's performance since *its launch*.

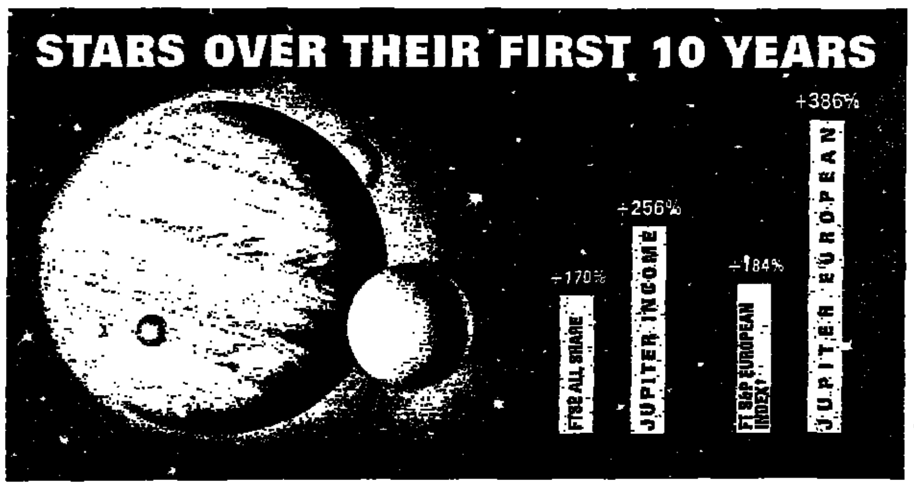
He will point to Channel 5's success in securing feature films and the rights to the European matches of Premiership teams such as Arsenal as helping to build an audience. "Channel 5 can be a financial and commercial success as a rather ordinary broadcaster," Mr Fry is saying.

Latest figures show Channel 5 winning an audience share of 3.1 per cent despite only being received by 63 per cent of the viewing public in the UK. This is expected to increase as new transmitters come on *line and, in the areas where it is received*, the channel has a 5 per cent share. BZW has compared the value of Channel 5 to the prices paid in recent deals to buy TV *stations*, notably United's £371 million purchase of HTV Group, which broadcasts in Wales and the West Country and commands just 2.6 per cent of the national TV audience.

"All the forecasters are expecting substantial increases in both advertising and audience shares by the year 2000," Mr Fry says. "By that time, Channel 5 could be worth *close on £1 billion*."

On that basis United's stake will be worth nearly £300 million and Pearson's nearly £250 million, having invested no more than £160 million between them.

STARS OVER THEIR FIRST 10 YEARS



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Bar chart: *Offer to bid, net income reinvested 1.8.87-1.8.97. Source: Micropal †Excluding UK. Five year performance to 1.8.97: Jupiter Income +233% (1st out of 80 sector funds); FTSE All Share +137%; Jupiter European + 239% (2nd out of 108 sector funds); FTS&P European Index +163.0%; offer to bid, net income reinvested. Source: Micropal.

To: Investor Support, Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Ltd, Knightsbridge House, 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB.
Please send me further information on: The Jupiter Income/European Funds ☐ The Jupiter PEP ☐ Jupiter Unit Trusts ☐
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2

Malaysian circular reveals depth of UK contractor's problems

Frustrated chief leaves ailing Costain

By Mark Court

THE head of civil engineering at Costain, the embattled contractor, has resigned as the company struggles to overcome its latest financial crisis.

George May, who had been with the company for 28 years and who had been tipped to become chief executive, left in frustration after the company, which was once one of the biggest names in UK building, failed to sort out its problems.

Mr May, a managing director, left on the June 30, but his resignation was not announced to the Stock Exchange because he was no longer a main board member.

The depth of Costain's problems was revealed yesterday in a circular to shareholders in Intria, the Malaysian company owning 37.2 per cent of Costain.

The circular, distributed in Malaysia, said that, for Costain to stay a going concern, "the group must secure additional funding in order to meet its working capital requirements". It added: "The level of funding will determine whether the group has adequate headroom to meet any additional requirements."

Intria paid £73 million for its Costain stake in July last year, believing that it had rescued the company and that it had opened the door to winning a huge amount of international construction work. However, the circular puts the book value of the Costain investment at just £20.7 million and says that the company will be loss-making for at least the next two years.

Intria forecasts that it will lose £2.37 million on its Costain shareholding this year and £1.52 million next year. Even these losses are based on an assumption that "significant new work will be won in order to secure profits for the estimate and forecast period".

Costain is close to announcing a debt-for-equity swap with its bankers to cut debt thought to be about £22 million. Intria's stake will be reduced to just over 30 per cent, causing observers to suggest that up to 25 per cent of Costain's equity will go to the banks, led by National Westminster. This would wipe out Costain's debt.

A £40 million cash injection is also rumoured for the group, although the identity of the investor remains a mystery. The investor is almost certainly from overseas, where Costain has a slightly less battered reputation than in the UK.

Shares in Costain were suspended in November last year. The company's delayed 1996 accounts are expected shortly, and the shares may be relisted this autumn.

Investment in ethical funds more than doubles

By Gavin Lumsden

PRIVATE investors are pouring money into ethical funds. New figures out today show that ethical funds have more than doubled their assets in the past three years.

Funds under management in ethical unit and investment trusts grew from £672.3 million in July 1994 to £1.4 billion last month, according to the Ethical Investment Research Service (Eiris). This growth outpaced conventional funds, which increased by a relatively meagre 55 per cent.

Nevertheless, conscience-driven investment remains a minority activity, just under 1 per cent of the £150 billion of funds under management, up by just 0.3 per cent since 1994. Karen Eldridge, head of client services at Eiris, said the figures showed that ethical financial products such as personal pension and savings plans were here to stay.

Under a Labour Government the sector was ready to make a quantum leap into the mainstream, she suggested. "Robin Cook is talking about an ethical foreign policy. Clare Short at International Development is working to establish ethical trading. Before the election Tony Blair talked about stakeholding. Companies should not just be looking at the bottom line: they should be looking at improving their relations with customers, suppliers and the wider commmunity."

A launch of an ethical fund from a well-known manager such as Schroders or Morgan Grenfell would also help. In addition, she argued that financial advisers should be obliged to ask their clients if they wanted to invest ethically.

There are around 40 ethical unit and investment trusts today. Friends Provident Stewardship is the biggest, with £370 million of investors' money. Friends Provident, the mutual insurer which runs it, started out as a Quaker foundation in the last century.

Traditional religious hang-ups form the foundation of ethical investment. Most ethical funds still avoid companies involved with tobacco, alcohol and pornography. However, military production and environmental harm were soon added to the list. More recently ethical funds have started to use positive criteria in their stock selection, picking companies who are actively involved in improving the environment and care about their community.

By their nature ethical funds are unable to invest in blue chip members of the FTSE 100 index. This can affect their performance. All ethical funds had a terriffic run until this spring when a bull market in the banks and pharmaceuticals left them standing.

Liverpool Bay oil boosts Monument

By George Sivell

MONUMENT Oil and Gas, the independent oil company, enjoyed the benefit of first production at the Liverpool Bay field in the North Sea in the six months to June 30.

Sales more than doubled from £8.3 million to £17 million and operating profits rose from £6.5 million to £15.4 million. However, the impact of putting £8.7 million of interest charges into the profit and loss account kept growth in after-tax profits down from £6.8 million to £7.9 million. Earnings per share rose from 0.98p to 1.13p and again there is no dividend. Last year shareholders received £33 million in a complex capital reorganisation.

Production rose 88 per cent to 22,700 barrels of oil equivalent a day, although Monument says that Liverpool Bay suffered some delays and is not yet up to full production. It is approaching target levels and was averaging more than 50,000 barrels a day by the half-year end.

The main thrust of Monument's expansion plans remains overseas. Field operations have begun in Turkmenistan.

☐ Tullow Oil yesterday said that its development plans for the Sara field in Pakistan had received approval from the Government. Gas from the field will be delivered to Guddu power station, operated by the Pakistan water and power development authority. Tullow shares rose 1½p to 100½p.

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Sir Ian Prosser has led Bass out of Carlsberg-Tetley after the blocking of its merger bid

Bass exits Carlsberg-Tetley

By Our City Staff

BASS, the brewing and leisure group, has exercised and completed its option to sell all its interests in Carlsberg-Tetley, the brewer, to Carlsberg of Denmark for £110 million.

Bass exercised the option after a decision by Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, to block its proposed merger with Carlsberg-Tetley.

Under the terms of the 1996 merger agreement signed between Bass and Allied Domecq, the wines and spirits group, Bass has also asked Allied to refund £30 million paid by Bass for Allied's stake in Carlsberg-Tetley.

Bass, whose chairman is Sir Ian Prosser, announced last August its plan to acquire Allied's 50 per cent stake in Carlsberg-Tetley for £200 million. The group also planned to buy the rest of the business from Carlsberg in exchange for Carlsberg taking a 20 per cent stake in the merged company.

Bass expects to make a net loss from the failed merger bid of about £60 million before taking account of income from its 50 per cent share of Carlsberg-Tetley's profits earned while its bid was under review.

Bass's bid for Carlsberg-Tetley was the first significant judgment on a competition issue after Mrs Beckett came to office.

UK car output falls in face of forecasts

By Rachel Holmes

CAR production in the United Kingdom fell by a seasonally adjusted 7.9 per cent in the six months to July compared with the previous half-year period, according to figures released yesterday by the Office for National Statistics.

Compared with the same period a year earlier, production for the home market fell 9.9 per cent.

This picture seems at odds with other evidence suggesting that UK car manufacturers are enjoying a relatively good year.

With the economy buoyant and windfalls burning holes in some consumers' pockets, the domestic retail market has been more resilient than many would have anticipated. The Government's Budget in June did not hit corporate cars as badly as it might have done.

Continued weak demand in many continental European economies, the destination of the majority of cars exported, has affected production to a certain extent.

However production decisions are relatively immune to the strength of sterling in the short term.

Indeed, on an unadjusted basis, cars manufactured for export in the six months to July increased 12.4 per cent compared with the same period in 1996.

Moreover, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, cars produced for the domestic market jumped to 90,210 in July, up 6.9 per cent on July 1996, to meet the peak demand in August.

Sales this month are expected to reach as high as 490,000 to 500,000 units.

But experts anticipate a slight easing of production in the second half as the effects of the stronger currency kick in, eroding the UK's competitive edge.

Domestic demand may also decline as higher interest rates make finance schemes more expensive and growth rates slow.

Pyrex creator sells houseware business

From Tunku Varadarajan in New York

CORNING, whose glass casserole dishes and ceramic pans have brought joy to generations of chefs and housewives, is to sell its houseware business to a New York-based investment firm.

Since the company's creation 82 years ago, its Pyrex measuring cups, Corelle dishes and Revere Ware pots are the staples of every kitchen in North America, and few British homes are without them.

Corning, however, has branched increasingly into the more lucrative high-technology business of optical fibre cables for telephone lines. Last year, houseware contributed $630 million (£394 million) to total company sales of $5.7 billion, and made only $58 million in net profit.

AEA Investors, founded in 1969 as a private investment firm, outbid at least six rivals for an 89 per cent stake in Corning Consumer Products Co, the company's houseware arm. Although figures were not disclosed, it is believed that Corning stands to earn about $975 million before taxes, of which $750 million will be in cash. The balance is to come in a refinancing package. A source close to Corning said that after-tax profit would amount to about $250 million. Corning will retain [illegible] per cent of the business.

Ennstone bid for Bruntcliffe

ENNSTONE, the quarrying and aggregates company, has made an agreed £26.2 million bid for Bruntcliffe Aggregates in which it owns a 9.4 per cent stake (Chris Ayres writes).

The deal will see 15 new Ennstone shares issued for every Bruntcliffe share, valued at 48.75p each. Mineral and General Investments, whose 4.2 per cent stake in Bruntcliffe was disenfranchised after a prolonged dispute, will be allowed to vote for the takeover.

If the bid is completed, Bruntcliffe's three directors will receive about £1.4 million in bonuses and severance pay. Ennstone will place 83.3 million shares at 3p each, raising £2.5 million to fund the payments.

Care First's chief quits in board rift

By Fraser Nelson

CHAI PATEL has resigned as chief executive of Care First, the nursing group, after deciding that he could not share the boardroom with Keith Bradshaw, its executive chairman.

Dr Patel, whose Court Cavendish healthcare group merged with Mr Bradshaw's Takare group last October, is in line for a £250,000 payoff — equivalent to 14 months' pay. He will also leave with a shareholding worth £1.06 million.

In a letter of resignation, Dr Patel said: "I have come to the conclusion that the group does not require an executive chairman and a chief executive."

Mr Bradshaw said that he was saddened by the affair. He said: "When we merged, we decided to take the roles which we did and run our respective business, but we always knew that the capacity for disruption was there.

"He just felt that two into one did not go. I did not see this coming at all. There was certainly a clash of management styles — we are both very strong-minded individuals — but there is no hard feeling. I learned a lot from him and I have always respected him."

Mr Bradshaw said the board intends to recruit a new chief executive to work alongside himself as executive chairman and later as full-time, non-executive chairman.

Shares fall as suitors fight shy of Appleyard

Williamson: hunt for successor

By Mark Court

SHARES in Appleyard, the car and truck retailer, plunged by 15 per cent yesterday after the company announced that bid talks were off.

PDFM, the company's major shareholder, prompted the talks with rival distributors, including Sanderson Bramall, after growing dissatisfaction with Appleyard's performance.

John Atkin, Appleyard's finance director, said: "Nobody has suggested a price which our advisers believed should be put to the shareholders." Potential bidders are understood to have received a frosty reception from car manufacturers, including Germany's Volkswagen and Audi, that control Appleyard's key franchises.

Now that takeover talks have collapsed, the hunt is back on for a new chief executive to replace Mike Williamson, in a bid to revive the company's fortunes.

Appleyard, whose shares hit a five-year low of 52½p before bid rumours surfaced two months ago, also released disappointing interim results yesterday.

Interim pre-tax profits were down from £4.6 million to £3.9 million, including an exceptional profit of £725,000 as part of the company's restructuring.

Mr Atkin said: "The aim is to produce a smaller and more robust car business."

Appleyard now has 41 dealerships, after disposing of 13 which used up £2.6 million of provisions in the first half. It intends to shed a further four in the second half.

The company has fallen victim to the restructuring of car dealerships, where manufacturers are giving larger areas to fewer dealers.

An interim dividend of 2p, compared with 3.1p, will be paid on October 2. Earnings fell to 3.7p a share from 4.4p.

Turnover was down marginally to £380 million from £390.5 million. Rationalisation of the group's franchises resulted in lower volumes of passenger cars, although outlets enjoyed higher margins on new and used cars and an improved stockturn.

New car deliveries in the key trading month of August were described as "encouraging."

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Swiss head of Bally quits over differences

ERNST THOMKE, Switzerland's most renowned company turnaround specialist, resigned yesterday as head of the Bally International shoe division of Oerlikon-Buehrle Holding. Oerlikon said: "The reasons are irreconcilable differences of opinion between Oerlikon-Buehrle Holding AG and Ernst Thomke. These lie outside the existing strategies, concepts and the work introduced at Bally."

Bally, specialising in shoes, leather goods and upmarket clothes, hired Mr Thomke as chief executive officer in September 1995. His successor has not yet been named. Mr Thomke, 58, is credited with reviving a string of moribund Swiss companies, including Swiss watchmaker Ste Suisse Microelectronique et d'Horlogerie SA (SMH) and Saurer, a textile machinery and automobile component maker. Mr Thomke let it be known during an interview in early August that he might resign unless problems were resolved. A spokesman for Mr Thomke said: "It has nothing to do with the strategy and the concepts, and what we are doing with the restructuring of Bally. This will be continued in the same way." The differences were well-known and related to how and when to float Bally and board discussions on content.

Views sought on Fedsure

THE Office of Fair Trading said yesterday that it was inviting public comment on the acquisition by Fedsure, the South African financial services group, of Beale Dobie, the market-maker in secondhand endowment policies majority owned by Hambros Insurance Services. The Office of Fair Trading said that it was considering whether the proposed acquisition should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The deadline for public comment has been set for September 8.

Mallett turnover up 35%

MALLETT, the fine art dealer, lifted pre-tax profits to £1.19 million from £773,000 in the six months to June 30, on turnover that rose 35 per cent to £7 million from £5.2 million. Earnings advanced to 5.84p a share from 3.75p and the interim dividend is increased to 1.3p a share from 1.1p. The company said that although the strength of sterling had adversely affected sales in continental Europe, it had little impact on sales to America. Normally about 80 per cent of Mallett's business involves buyers in Britain and America.

Graystone chief resigns

GRAYSTONE, the engineering and components distribution group, yesterday announced the resignation of Dick Richardson, the non-executive chairman. The company said Mr Richardson, who will pursue other interests, would be succeeded by Bob Wickham, a non-executive director, while a search began for a permanent replacement. Last week, Graystone, based in Wilmslow, Cheshire, ended takeover talks with an unnamed company. Yesterday the shares fell 5p to a new low of 38½p. A year ago the shares were worth 150p.

Cliveden blames delays

CLIVEDEN, the hotels group, gave warning yesterday that planning delays would hit results for the full year to October 31, 1997. The shares, however, rose 2p to 63½p. Cliveden said planning approval delays have had an adverse effect on the current year results, but it was "confident that targeted levels of profitability and return on capital remain achievable". The company said it has now received three planning approvals, which will allow it to expand its three hotels, Cliveden, the Cliveden Town House and the Royal Crescent Hotel.

Dunloe makes cash call

DUNLOE HOUSE, the Irish property company whose shares have been suspended at 32½p, yesterday announced a Ir£25 million (£22.7 million) placing and open offer at 18p a share. Existing shareholders are being offered nine new shares for every five held. Dunloe also announced the acquisition of properties owned by Monarch, Aviette and Cherrywood for around Ir£21 million. In the six months to June 30 Dunloe made Ir£405,406 (Ir£26,613). Earnings were 0.44p (0.02p). Once again there is no dividend.

Bond's jail term raised

ALAN BOND, the failed Australian entrepreneur, has been jailed for an extra three years for his part in Australia's biggest corporate fraud. An appeal court in Western Australia said that a four-year sentence imposed in February failed to reflect the seriousness of his crimes. Thousands of small investors in Bond schemes lost their money after his empire collapsed. Bond, 59, who could have sought parole in 1998, now has an earliest possible release date of June 1999. He is serving a concurrent three-year sentence for an earlier fraud.

Vaux sells five hotels

VAUX, the hotels, pubs and brewing company, is selling five of its three-star Swallow hotels to Chasley Lifestyle. The sale was announced yesterday, along with the completion of the disposal of the 38-strong St Andrews nursing homes chain to Highfield Group. The combined proceeds of the transactions comes to £48 million, with the potential for a further £3 million from the earn-out formula for the St Andrews sale. Vaux currently has two four-star hotels under construction in Liverpool and Huntingdon at a cost of £14 million.

Tinsley Robor grows

TINSLEY ROBOR, the supplier of packaging to the music and multimedia publishing industries, is to buy Pinepoint, a pre-press company, for £2.7 million, of which £1.7 million is due on completion, with the balance payable over the next three years. Pinepoint, which earned £350,000 before tax but after non-recurring items on turnover of £2 million, will work alongside Sonicon, Tinsley Robor's design and pre-press subsidiary. Colin Baker will continue to manage Pinepoint, but Doug Roach, its co-founder, is leaving the business.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.25	2.07
Austria Sch	21.48	19.82
Belgium Fr	63.28	58.32
Canada $	2.362	2.174
Cyprus Cyp£	0.901	0.830
Denmark Kr	11.68	10.79
Finland Mk	9.26	8.51
France Fr	10.27	9.49
Germany Dm	3.08	2.83
Greece Dr	484	445
Hong Kong $	13.29	12.03
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.14	1.06
Israel Shk	5.98	5.38
Italy Lira	3013	2776
Japan Yen	202.73	185.20
Malta	0.666	0.610
Netherlds Gld	3.458	3.174
New Zealand $	2.83	2.40
Norway Kr	12.76	11.82
Portugal Esc	307.53	285.80
S Africa Rd	8.25	7.29
Spain Pta	257.29	238.50
Sweden Kr	13.55	12.45
Switzerland Fr	2.56	2.34
Turkey Lira	275223	255545
USA $	1.711	1.588

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

"Ann Iverson, chief executive of Laura Ashley, went uncharacteristically quiet as rumours circulated of weak sales, factory closures and a disastrous American expansion programme. For a woman who promised success, failure on her home territory was particularly galling ..."

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

A WORKING WEEK FOR: VITTORIO RADICE

The man from Milan reshaping Selfridges

Sarah Cunningham meets the Italian busy expanding Oxford Street's most famous store as it prepares for independence from Sears

VITTORIO RADICE was looking a bit weary. It was the end of his first week back at work after a fortnight's holiday in Greece, and he had *found himself immersed* in meeting after meeting about what he calls Selfridges's "mega-projects". These include reorganising the Oxford Street store; opening the first regional Selfridges, in Manchester, next year; looking for a store site in Glasgow; opening a new warehouse; and, of more importance to shareholders than to shoppers, demerging Selfridges from its ill-fated parent, Sears. As chief executive of Selfridges, all these projects fall into his lap.

The day before we met, Radice, 40, who is married with two children, had dragged *himself away for a trip to his* native city of Milan to visit a handful of the fashion designers who provide Selfridges *with the* all-important labels that fill its clothing departments' rails.

Although to talk to him, labels seem to dominate Radice's thoughts, they do not dominate his person. He was dressed with Italian understatement in grey trousers, blue and white shirt and brown loafers. Any flashy labels were well-hidden. His weariness was disguised by a deep tan, and his manner was brisk and businesslike.

Quoted in print he can come across as a typical expansive Latin, but in person he is serious and *unsentimental*. He admitted that he had not found time on his trip to Milan to visit his mother; for an Italian, that is not just unsentimental, it is positively cold-blooded.

Indeed, in spite of all the problems with *which his "mega-projects" in London* present him, his daytrip to Italy had not made Radice at all homesick. He has been in London for seven years, working until March last year as head of Habitat UK, and he is a big fan of his adopted home. "It has restaurants, art, music," he says. "*It is easy to move around. London is the* best place to be; it is the capital of Europe."

Within London, he feels, unsurprisingly, that Selfridges has a special place. The refurbishment of the store — which began long before he joined and has a lot further to go — will, he believes, reinforce its position. His aim is to make it the most stylish department store in London.

Its four floors are being redesigned so that customers will for the first time be able to see clear from one side of the huge shop to the other, and space for retailing is to be reclaimed from the offices now occupied by Selfridges and Sears managers. Once all the work is done, well into *the next millennium*, Selfridges will trade from more space than Harrods currently does, although Harrods's own expansion plans mean that Selfridges will probably *never quite catch up*. It should all be good for trade in the long term. For the moment, though, the disruption caused by the work, as well as the drop in tourist numbers this summer, are making trade more difficult.

The Selfridges store was developed in *three phases, between 1909 and 1934*, as new areas of the Oxford Street block, which houses not just the store but also the *Selfridges* hotel and garage, were added. Due to the haphazard growth, there was only one bank of escalators in the huge 500,000 sq ft store. This is being changed, and escalators are being put in all around the store.

Numerous architects and planners are involved in moving departments around the shop to make the layout more logical. Selfridges has also taken on a new catering manager to oversee its 14 eateries, which will be added to with a sushi bar next year. In Radice's view, the *bars and restaurants are of key importance* to Selfridges. "Everything looks very different over a glass of wine," he says.

Meanwhile, with all this work going on, the shop has to be kept ticking over. One crisis to be dealt with during Radice's week occurred in the wedding list department. "It is a very popular operation and we are currently refusing new *applications* because we have too many," he says. "The machine has been running at full steam too long and has broken down." The consequences of a breakdown can be *nasty*. "People getting married can get very nervous, and, if they *don't receive everything*, they go wild," he says. The aim now is to clear the backlog of applications and to separate the consultants from the people arranging the deliveries.

Radice is well known in the world of retailing, *but he is an unknown quantity* in the City. Next year's demerger should change all that. Radice, like everyone else in Sears, is unwilling to go into detail about the demerger, which SBC Warburg is currently preparing. In the week in question, Radice said that he had had "a *small chat before lunch" one day on the* matter, but says that it was no more than an update on the timetable, which should see *Selfridges quoted on the stock market* in the middle of next year.

He describes the prospect of being chief executive of a PLC as "very, very exciting", but does not see it as being very different from how things are now. "The only thing that will be added to the equation will be that I'll have to *deal with the shareholders* directly, but, as far as the handling of the company is concerned, there is no difference," he says.

Even though the Manchester store, which at 160,000 sq ft will be very small compared with Oxford Street, is still under *construction, plans are already advanced* for the layout of the floors and the goods that will be stocked. Radice spends little *time visiting the site* yet, but a *lot of time discussing how it is going to look and feel.* Like the London store, the emphasis will be on Radice's beloved labels.

"*We have made a conscious decision to* come out of private label," he says. "We are in the business of retailing; we are not in the business of designing and manufacturing. What we are trying to do is to be the first one to introduce brands." Selfridges's strength in offering brands is *that it is what he calls "a melting pot"* serving every type of customer. However, to keep all the brands in store, the likes of Prada, Ralph Lauren and Katherine Hamnet must be kept happy by allowing them a lot of say in how their goods are presented. Keeping the dialogue going is the *reason for the regular visits to them* in Milan, New York and Paris.

London might like to think that it is *more sophisticated than the provinces*, but Radice dismisses any concerns about a different type of customer in Manchester. The city is packed with new designer stores, he says.

One of the things he likes about the Oxford Street Selfridges is that, because it was left *more or less to its own devices for* 20 years, it has kept many of its quirky little departments. These include a pharmacy, safe deposit boxes, the car park, a *fresh meat counter and a flower shop*. "These all generate tremendous traffic and it lets people go away with a little bit *more than they expected," he says.*

Department stores as a whole, after a moribund period, are on the up and up. According to a report published earlier this month by the Verdict consultancy, *their* sales are ahead of general retail sales and 15 new department stores are due to open in the next four years; Selfridges's Manchester store is just one of them.

Moreover, Debenhams, which is second only to John Lewis in market share, is going *the same way* as Selfridges and is being demerged from its parent, The Burton Group, next year.

So just how competitive is it out there? "Very," Radice says. Debenhams, after developing strong own labels, is now selling big brands such as Calvin Klein's CK and Jasper Conran. "If they *move* up market, I have to push further up too," Radice says. "It is a question of how *upmarket I can go. When Versace was* killed, we sold out of Versace."

After his hectic week, and after finishing the interview, the rest of his Friday could be spent on staff matters and walking about the store. He says that his one big regret is that he has had too little time to spend with the staff. Relations have not been entirely smooth, as witnessed by *the fact* that Mary Litchfield, a former senior manager who was not appointed to the board, as she had *expected, is taking the company to court* for alleged sex discrimination.

The changes being introduced in the company, and the near-chaos of being within Sears in the past few years, cannot have helped staff morale. "The changes are overwhelming," Radice says. "People *need to be embraced and loved.*"

With the pace of change at Selfridges set to quicken, rather than to slow down, running the business — *plus embracing* and loving thousands of staff in London, Manchester and perhaps eventually Glasgow — *Radice runs the risk of ending* up *not just weary*, but *completely worn* out.

> ❛London is the best place to be; it is the capital of Europe❜

DES JENSON

Vittorio Radice, chief executive of Selfridges, tours the Oxford Street store during a break from planning a Manchester launch and seeking a Glasgow site

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Cover version

WHO NEEDS Mystic Meg? When it comes to prescient predictions, I will be relying on the foresight of the investment trust research team at brokers Crédit Lyonnais Laing. All *you need to know* about the first few months of the Labour Government was contained in a cartoon on the cover of Laing's 1996 investment trust yearbook, which was published a year before *the election victory*.

The cartoon shows Tony Blair, surrounded by his Cabinet *buddies, arriving at the* airport. A plethora of policy papers are floating around, and one clearly says: "Tax credits", correctly predicting the change on dividend tax credits in Gordon Brown's first Budget. But, more significantly, Brown is seen arm-in-arm with a woman, predicting his *romance* with PR woman Sarah Macaulay.

Mark Jeffries, who heads the team, confesses: "We did think about tax credits, but not about Gordon Brown. Alas we don't have a hotline to HQ. I wish we had." This must be a relief to Peter Mandelson, who is shown disappearing towards the exit gate with John Major and the dispossessed Tories.

Debra Davis of Amex is still going for gold

Wright-off

NO DOUBT to the intense irritation of fans of Tottenham *Hotspur, it has been almost* impossible to move this week without coming across Ian Wright, the effervescent Arsenal striker, who is expected to knock a couple of goals past hapless Southampton today and so breach a 50-year-old goal-scoring record. But attempts by Chrysalis, the *media group run by* QPR boss Chris Wright, to cash in on Wright's achievements have *been stumped. Chrysalis* Sports, which has a contract with Arsenal, wanted to produce a commemorative video to be sold to all fans of football once the goal is scored. Only the star of the show will not play ball, as it were. Wright refused to agree to any video deal before the record is broken because *he thinks* that it might be bad luck.

☐ *IT WILL be interesting to see how the City takes to the prospect of a company joining the stock market that backs rock festivals and is run by a former livestock inseminator from Ireland. I have always thought that the Mean Fiddler Organisation sounded like the sort of international syndicate that does battle with Batman and Robin.*

Dead lines

ATTEMPTS by BT and MCI to put their £11 billion merger back on track were hampered yesterday by technical problems. The global *communications* giants were trying to inform the markets in New York and London simultaneously *through a transatlantic* link. But while a Wall Street analyst was attempting to grill BT's chairman, Sir Iain Vallance, the line went dead. In London the audience could see *his lips moving, but no* words came out. Three attempts to restore the sound *failed* before a London wag asked: "Is this a BT or MCI line?"

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Gold reserve

I AM *finding* it difficult to restrain my excitement at the prospect of being able to pay £40 a year to American Express for the pleasure of a gold credit card. According to Debra Davis, who is vice-pres*ident of American Express, the* growth in the ownership of gold cards clearly demonstrates that the time is right for *the group to* launch a credit card in a colour other than green.

But, in spite of Davis telling me how *important* it is for anyone in the know to have a gold Amex, the world has clearly changed since the company launched its gold charge card 17 years ago. According to my friends at Datamonitor, gold cards are losing their ex*clusive status*. The number of gold cards issued trebled between 1993 and 1996 and, at the last count, there were 2.5 *million of them*. A fifth of these come from the Co-op, which has taken post-modern irony to its logical conclusion by launching a gold card with street credibility. However if you want real exclusivity, how about a new affinity card *that* has just been launched by the National Association of Fish Fryers.

☐ *IT NEVER rains but it pours. Just when it was starting to go quiet at NatWest Markets, up pops the National Audit Office saying that the Ministry of Defence homes were sold last year for up to £139 million less than they were worth. And which merchant bankers were in charge of the sell-off. Yes, you guessed it.*

With a bang

I AM glad to see that Fantastic Fireworks, the leading pyrotechnicians based, *appropriately*, at Rocket Park near Luton, Bedfordshire, are to represent Britain *in next year's international* fireworks competition at San Sebastian in Spain. Jon *Culverhouse, the managing* director, tells me that the company has "a wide and unusual array of friends and followers". Lord Brocket spoke at a training course, prior to being jailed for insurance fraud, and Fantastic *put on a display for the* Montserrat Electricity Board, which was "hoping to celebrate its tenth anniversary last year with a different type of fireworks display". The eleventh anniversary celebration was even more dramatic.

JASON NISSÉ

"Good name for a band"

"the cutting edge of investment is available now"

It's time to change the way you invest. Next Tuesday Threadneedle Investments launches an entirely new range of investment funds and PEPs. This launch unveils a comprehensive range of global investment opportunities which take advantage of the latest investment regulations.† Offering a new and dramatically lower price structure – just 3.75%* initial charge across the entire range – combined with Threadneedle's investment pedigree, these funds could provide a valuable new addition to your investment portfolio.

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T/53

[illegible]

STOCK MARKET **CLARE STEWART**

Profit-takers cash in as Dow leads shares down

ANOTHER Friday, another wobble. After a week of steady progress, recovering from the previous week's surprise drop, the market yesterday all but reversed its gains, to close just above the key 4,900 level.

The fall of nearly 111 points at its worst confirmed what market-makers had been warning of all week. Namely, that once Wall Street turned down, London would not be far behind.

The overnight falls registered by the Dow Jones industrial average, together with the Nikkei and Hang Seng, set the early tone, while an expected sell-off materialised as Wall Street reopened for business and fell back.

Concerns over a tightening of interest rates in the US were said to be fuelling volatility on Wall Street, while renewed concern over inflationary pressures unsettled bond markets in both the US and Europe.

Unlike last Friday when there was no one single factor prompting the sharp drop, said Bob Semple at NatWest Securities, the fall yesterday did reflect more economic factors at work. "Investors are more nervous and tempted to take profits in sectors such as financials which have enjoyed a good run," he said. Looking to next week, "Markets could remain volatile," said Mr Semple, who does not dismiss the possibilty of a 5-10 per cent correction as concerns over inflation remain.

By the close the FTSE 100 had recovered some its poise to end 76.9 lower at 4,901.1, with 800 million shares traded, largely boosted by turnover in BT.

Profit-taking among sectors such as banks, pharmaceuticals and oil, affected a number of heavyweight stocks and dragged the index lower.

HSBC dropped 73½p to £21.04½, while **SmithKline Beecham** was the worst performer among FTSE 100 stocks, closing down 60p to £10.74½. **Glaxo Wellcome** lost 36½p to £12.28½, while among oils Shell, BP and Lasmo were marked down.

BT once again hogged the limelight as Sir Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, and Tim Price, president of MCI, shook hands on their new deal and as the full significance was became clear to the market. A massive 177.45 million BT shares changed hands, as arbitrageurs and institutional investors took stock of the new agreement.

Tim Price, of MCI, and Sir Iain Vallance, of BT, up 23½p

The deal, widely welcomed as a good thing for BT, sent shares in the telecoms group 35p higher at one point, though by the close they were up 23½p to 436p.

Among the relatively select list of FTSE 100 stocks making positive progress, **BSkyB** put on 9½p to 441p after a buy recommendation from analysts at Salomon Brothers, who have pencilled in a 486p target price.

Dixons was again in demand, up 2p to 432p, while the weaker pound helped some exporters to put on modest gains. BG, with talk of a share buyback doing the rounds, made further progress, rising 3½p to 263½p.

ICI was rattled after analysts at Kleinwort Benson reiterated their sell stance on the stock, setting a fair value of 800p, as they say ICI is too expensive relative to its peers. ICI dropped back 31½p to £10.08.

Among other blue chips **Unilever** closed 41½p lower at £18.09 on reports of a broker trimming forecasts. **Cadbury Schweppes** was also lower, down 15½p to 582½p. Earlier in the week the shares had been hit by talk of weaker interest from US investors.

Tobacco stocks dimmed after a new report on the effects of long-term smoking. **Gallaher** ended 11½p lower at 288½p, with Imperial Tobacco off 4p to 388p.

Second-liners had a better day, with the FTSE 250 ending 29.3 points lower at 4,658.7, while the small companies index was adift just five points.

RJB Mining rose 15p to 330p as it recovered ground lost earlier in the week, when it announced the closure of the Asfordby Colliery in Leicestershire.

Hopes of news on the much anticipated agreement with Johnson & Johnson helped **Biocompatibles** put on 40p to £10.95.

Storehouse made further progress, rising 8p to 231½p, finding buyers while other retailers were left on the shelf.

Sears, for example, dropped back 2½p to 62p, near to its low for the year, while **Blacks Leisure** ended 11p lower at 403½p on further conern over the impact of Tesco's sale of cut price Adidas sportswear.

Save Group, the independent petrol retailer, motored further ahead with a 3p rise to 73p. Their rally in the past few days comes in the wake of Shell's plans to acquire the retail outlets of Gulf UK. Save's shares touched a high of 141½p this year and slid back in June to a low of 51½p.

After the strength of the power generators earlier in the week it was left to water stocks to mop up investors' money. **Thames Water** was 2p higher at 790½p. **Wessex Water** rose 5½p and **Yorkshire Water** climbed 3½p to 441p.

FirstBus added 2½p to 205½p on reports that it wants to add airports to its bus and train portfolio and is putting in a bid for a 51 per cent stake in Bristol Airport.

Confirmation of a deal to supply its PowerVR chip to Matrox, the world's largest manufacturer of branded graphic cards used in PCs and particularly computer games, helped **Videologic** to jump 10½p to 64½p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** After a quiet week gilts came under pressure in the wake of heavy futures trading and as dealers squared their positions ahead of the holiday weekend. The September series of the long gilt closed down £$^{25}/_{32}$ at £114$^{05}/_{32}$, with volume sharply up as 114,000 contracts were traded.

Treasury 8 per cent 2000 ended down £$^{06}/_{32}$ to £102$^{17}/_{32}$, while 8 per cent 1015 dropped £$^{30}/_{32}$ to £110$^{09}/_{32}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares were back on the rollercoaster, hammered for the second day running as the dollar resumed its slide and the technology sector raced south. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 112.19 down at 7,781.76.

Shares in Appleyard Group fell 10½p to 63½p after the news that bid talks had been ended. Confirmation of an agreed bid by Ennstone, unchanged at 3¾p, for Bruntcliffe Aggregrates pushed Bruntcliffe 2½p higher to 41½p. First-half results helped Mallett, the art and antiques dealer, to climb 8p to 97½p.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
BT	436	+54½	MCI merger news
HSBC	2104½	-63	profit taking
PowerGen	766½	+54	sector strengths
Ulster TV	237½	+38½	bid hopes
Weir Group	284½	+21	strong interim results
Boosey & Hawkes	975	+155	takeover speculation
ICI	1008½	-20½	analyst's comment
National Power	536	+28½	sector strengths
BG	263½	+8½	share buyback hopes

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	7781.76 (-112.19)
S&P Composite	912.39 (-12.66)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	18650.17 (-306.95)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	15429.75 (-224.28)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	918.42 (-31.87)
Sydney:	
AO	2620.3 (-29.4)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	4086.01 (-167.66)
Singapore:	
Straits	1945.44 (-1.13)
Brussels:	
General	13471.36 (-282.70)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2904.23 (-53.00)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1186.80 (-29.00)
London:	
FT 30	3143.1 (-40.5)
FTSE 100	4901.1 (-76.9)
FTSE 250	4658.7 (-29.3)
FTSE 350	2365.8 (-32.9)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2625.10 (-63.28)
FTSE All-Share	2312.11 (-30.39)
FTSE Non Financials	2322.44 (-30.02)
FTSE Fixed Interest	125.64 (-0.48)
FTSE Govt Secs	96.58 (-0.33)
Bargains	44590
SEAQ Volume	855.8m
US$	1.6060 (+0.0187)
German Mark	2.9173 (-0.0063)
Exchange Index	101.7 (-0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4724
£:SDR	1.1795
RPI	157.5 Jul (3.3%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	156.4 Jul (3.0%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Antofagasta Cv Uts	401½	- 1
Blakes Clothing	79½	...
Bristol & West Prf	108	- 1
Cammell Laird	136	...
EMI B	115	...
Fairfield Ents	117½	...
GR Holdings	55	...
Galen Holdings	206	+ 8½
Helicon Pubslg	98	...
Ionica Group	355½	- 11
Kingfisher Leisure	175½	...
LEPCO	78½	...
Landround	94½	...
Metroline	201½	- 3
Reabourne Merlin	108½	...
SBS Group	109½	...
Severn Trent B	33½	...
Stentor Warrants	53½	...
Thorn B	20½	...
Viglen Technology	63½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Dixon Mtrs n/p (235)	24	...
Golden Land n/p (21)	2	...
Logica n/p (605)	162½	...
Pendragon n/p (265)	2	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
BT	436p (+23½p)
RJB	330p (+15p)
Sherwd Intl	351p (+11p)
Vosper Thorny	795p (+9p)
FALLS:	
Westpac	373¾p (-11p)
Rio Tinto Ltd	949½p (-27p)
Ramsdens (H)	357½p (-10p)
Blacks Leis	403½p (-11p)
MAID	219p (-16p)
Vodafone	314p (-16½p)
Prism Rail	291p (-15p)
Reed Intl	549½p (-24p)
Premier Farnell	520p (-21p)
Osborne & Little	635p (-25p)
LASMO	263p (-10p)
Shield Diag	520p (-17½p)
Redland	303½p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 43

TEMPUS

An uneasy truce

FOR two companies that proclaim themselves global leaders in the communications business, British Telecom and MCI have remarkable difficulty in conveying a clear message to their shareholders. BT has secured a welcome reduction in the price it is paying for MCI after six weeks when neither side would clarify whether their agreement even permitted renegotiation of the deal. The suggestion, repeatedly made in New York that MCI had a rock-solid agreement, was clearly untruthful, as it always seemed.

The chronology of their peace deal was one of many issues that the parties refused to clarify yesterday. BT's Sir Peter Bonfield refused to explain how they had arrived at the new price which offers MCI shareholders more cash but fewer shares — a total reduction of perhaps 20 per cent. Instead, BT and MCI contented themselves with trumpeting the strategic rationale of the deal set out last November.

It is hard to believe in the united front that BT and MCI put up against the suggestion that their relationship had been damaged by BT's belated discovery of the scale of its partner's losses in US local telephone markets. The message was that their partnership has emerged stronger through this difficult patch. No management changes are planned, leaving MCI's managers in many key positions.

But for many BT insiders, as well as the world outside, the company was badly misled by MCI. It is hard to imagine a more inauspicious start to this deal. The danger is that the fractures recently exposed will appear to damage the business again.

Save Group

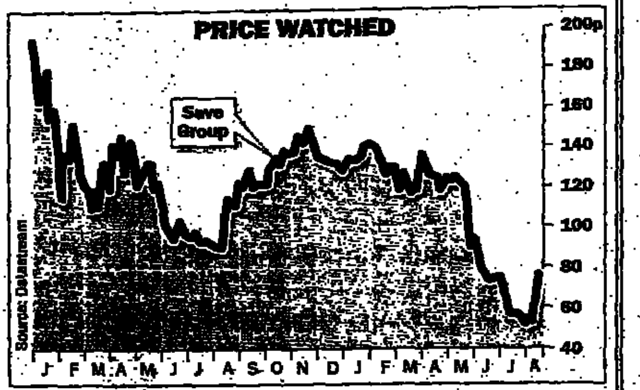
SHARES in Save Group have had their best week since Esso took its Price Watch campaign national at the start of last year. Britain's largest independent petrol retailer ended the week at 73p, almost 40 per cent higher than on Monday morning.

The sudden burst of enthusiasm stems from bid hopes, prompted by Shell's prospective £80 million purchase of Gulf Oil's chain of 450 petrol stations. Shell is unlikely to be allowed to follow this by swallowing Save and its 614 outlets.

Shell, Esso and BP already share about 60 per cent of the market. More likely buyers of Save are the other oil groups who have excess refining capacity and risk losing their distribution network: Texaco, Elf, Fina, Murco and Conoco. Texaco, with 780 outlets and keen to expand, is perhaps the favourite, partly because the Gulf deal will add to its capacity difficulties.

Save's share of sales has declined sharply, as its chairman, James Frost, has deliberately sacrificed volume in a largely successful attempt to protect margins. A better guide to its true worth is still its market share before the price war of 4 per cent, or roughly twice the size of the Gulf business.

Even after this week's rise, Save is still valued at under £70 million, less than half the £160 million that this analysis justifies. With Mr Frost making no secret of his willingness to sell, Save's shares look a good punt.



Capital Corp

GAMING is supposed to be one of the most highly regulated industries in the country. Yet the owner of two of the most prominent casinos in London has been shown to have been a badly run shambles. Those running Capital Corporation have failed to get to grips with the gaming business, the food and drink procurement, the finances of the company and, at times, their duties as directors.

As this has emerged into the open — how has Capital's board reacted? By taking legal action against a former director and two senior employees, attacking their credibility and betting that their pockets will not be as deep as the company's, effectively gagging them.

Of course it does not matter if Capital's accusations are true, as you cannot sue for libel over allegations in writs. But it might put doubts in the minds of shareholders who might think that the issues brought to light by a former finance director of the Royal Bank of Scotland are worthy of serious investigation.

One can only wonder what the Gaming Board thinks of all these goings-on. It is currently monitoring the situation and is not investigating. Maybe the allegations and Capital's reactions will tempt the Board into action, a move that can only be detrimental to the business and market value of Capital.

Monument Oil

MONUMENT Oil and Gas is one of the largest of a hardy band of survivors in a sector prone to takeover. Its stock market price tag of £600 million makes a mockery of its status as an "oil minnow".

Like many oil companies Monument sees the third world as its best hope of making commercial discoveries, although it recently took the precaution of swapping Argentinian interests for full control of the Fyne field in the North Sea.

Monument's balance sheet, at first glance, looks frightening. Net debts of £197 million tower above shareholders funds of £143 million, producing a conventional gearing of 137 per cent. The capital base, however, has been shrunk by a merger reserve of £76.4 million and £33 million of one-off payouts to shareholders last year.

Brokers expect net profits of £20 million-£22 million for the full year, which puts the shares on a multiple of 27 times earnings. The key will be how Monument uses the cash flow from Liverpool Bay.

Monument is talking to the Turkmenistan Government about a large project it hopes to finance out of cash flow and debt. This looks an interesting opportunity. In the meantime, the shares are supported by the perennial bid rumours.

EDITED BY PAUL DURMAN

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Sep	1064-1063	Dec	1149 SLR
Dec	1095-1083	Mar	1162-1161
Mar	1100 BID	May	1174 SLR
May	1114 BID	Jul	1192 SLR
Jul	1129-1125		
Sep	1137 BID		Volume: 4975

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Sep	1500-1496	May	1510-1500
Nov	1518-1515	Jul	1510-1485
Jan	1517-1510	Sep	unq
Mar	1505-1500		Volume: 2091

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	325.0-23.2
Spot	347.0	Aug	323.5-21.5
Oct	329.5-25.5	Oct	319.5-16.4
Dec	324.6-23.0	Dec	319.4-15.4
Mar	326.5-25.0		Volume: 1494

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on August 21

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	66.58	113.18	101.45
(+/-)	-5.96	+3.24	-0.16
Eng/Wales	66.58	111.50	100.29
(+/-)	-5.96	+3.45	-0.45
(%)	-29.0	-27.0	-2.0
Scotland	unq	111.21	105.[illegible]
(+/-)	—	+2.71	+0.97
(%)	—	+2.0	-4.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.25	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Oct)	18.50	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Nov)	18.65	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	19.70	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	19.85	-0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	226 (n/c)	229 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	166 (-3)	167 (-3)
3.5 Fuel Oil	92 (-1)	94 (n/c)
Naphtha	186 (-3)	190 (-3)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Sep	166.50-66.75	Dec	172.25-72.50
Oct	168.50-68.75	Jan	173.25-74.00
Nov	170.50-70.75		Vol: 20567

BRENT (6.00pm)

Oct	18.54-18.55	Jan	18.85 SLR
Nov	18.65-18.67	Feb	n/a
Dec	18.76-18.80		Vol: 20502

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Sep	85.50	Sep	79.25
Nov	88.25	Nov	91.25
Jan	90.25	Jan	93.25
Mar	92.25	Mar	95.25
May	94.25	May	96.75
Volume: 305		Volume: 94	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	62.0
Mar		99.0
Apr	118.9	125.0
		Volume:

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Sep 60.00-60.50

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Aug 97	1315	1315	1315
Sep 97	1415	1410	1415
Oct 97	1520	1513	1520
Jan 98	1515	1510	1520

Vol: 428 lots Open interest: 3228

Index 1304 +3

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2157.5-2159.0	2170.0-2180.0	115926
Lead ($/tonne)	611.0-611.50	623.0-624.0	237525
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1675.0-1682.0	1490.0-1490.0	127675
Tin ($/tonne)	5335.0-5345.0	5385.0-5390.0	14455
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1690.0-1692.0	1628.0-1629.5	262975
Nickel ($/tonne)	6552.0-6553.0	6650.0-[illegible]	39642

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	460	20	30	44	14	28	32
(*466)	500	9	15	27	36	52	56
ASDA	140	13	17	20	2	4	6
(*152)	160	3	7	10	11	13	15
Boots	750	57	90	—	11	27	—
(*795)	800	32	50	70	21	41	47
Br Airways	650	34	55	69	27	34	37
(*663)	700	15	34	45	44	61	64
BP	850	51	71	92	18	33	36
(*876)	900	26	44	61	42	57	60
Br Steel	160	15	22	26	4	6	8
(*174)	180	6	11	16	11	15	17
C & W	550	35	54	65	15	27	33
(*561)	600	14	31	44	46	54	58
CU	700	47	82	95	20	44	53
(*722)	750	20	57	67	50	69	79
ICI	1000	51	97	109	32	48	64
(*1008)	1050	31	62	76	59	73	90
Land Sec	900	50	60	78	27	29	35
(*914)	950	15	35	52	45	57	67
M & S	550	41	53	60	9	17	20
(*579)	600	14	27	30	31	39	44
Nat West	750	70	104	119	23	44	57
(*792)	800	42	70	92	47	66	81
Safeway plc	390	27	39	44	6	12	16
(*398)	400	10	20	28	19	27	30
Sainsbury	420	31	42	51	9	18	18
(*441)	460	11	22	30	25	34	38
Shell	417	20	33	—	16	23	—
(*422)	433	13	25	—	24	[illegible]	—
Smkl Bch	1050	70	111	120	31	54	60
(*1074)	1100	45	86	103	55	76	92
Smiths	300	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	1900	109	174	213	50	91	102
(*1957)	2000	64	121	161	95	135	150
	Series	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**
BAT Ind	500	37	57	65	17	28	37
(*514)	550	16	34	42	45	54	65
Vodafone	300	24	33	40	7	14	16
(*314)	330	11	19	25	23	29	31
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
Grnd Met	550	51	67	76	15	21	27
(*580)	600	21	41	52	37	44	50
Ladbroke	200	16	22	27	8	12	20
(*206)	220	9	15	19	27	21	32
Utd Bisc	200	20	26	28	4	5	8
(*216)	220	8	15	17	13	14	17

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	550	30	46	55	13	21	24
(*567)	600	9	23	31	41	49	50
Thames W	750	56	74	87	11	22	27
(*791)	800	26	49	59	30	44	49
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
BTR	200	27	25	30	9	11	14
(*214)	220	10	16	21	17	21	24
Br Aero	1400	94	132	157	39	54	64
(*1448)	1450	67	105	130	62	77	90
Br Telcm	425	37	39	—	15	31	—
(*436)	465	16	22	—	41	55	—
Cadbury	550	49	64	70	12	18	25
(*581)	600	22	37	44	33	41	49
Guinness	550	30	49	59	20	27	30
(*561)	600	17	25	30	45	50	55
GEC	360	29	35	45	10	17	20
(*377)	390	14	22	30	26	32	35
Hanson	300	17	26	32	14	17	22
(*307)	330	6	14	19	33	35	40
LASMO	260	18	26	29	9	15	17
(*263)	280	10	17	20	20	25	27
LucasVarity	190	23	29	33	4	5	7
(*209)	200	11	17	21	11	13	15
Pilkington	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*149)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prudential	600	38	58	69	33	43	53
(*603)	650	19	37	48	64	72	82
Redland	300	29	36	42	13	19	25
(*303)	330	13	14	19	32	37	43
R-Royce	240	19	26	31	12	16	20
(*234)	260	10	17	22	24	27	30
Tesco	390	35	46	53	9	14	19
(*414)	420	19	30	37	22	27	32
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4901)

	4800	4850	4900	4950	5000	5050
Calls						
Sep	172	140	109	87	61	44
Oct	222	192	162	134	112	90
Nov	273	244	214	194	162	140
Dec	321	290	257	225	202	167
Jun	435	—	394	—	343	—
Puts						
Sep	67	86	109	136	167	201
Oct	103	125	148	172	210	232
Nov	135	156	177	197	228	257
Dec	157	179	195	221	249	270
Jun	227	—	262	—	312	—

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Abby Nat	800	59	93	104	25	44	55
(*830)	850	33	68	79	47	68	74
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1400	91	147	160	59	77	114
(*1448)	1450	57	115	137	85	122	138
Nat Pwr	500	51	66	75	10	[illegible]	[illegible]
(*536)	550	25	39	45	29	37	41
	Series	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**
Glaxo Well	1200	75	117	134	12	56	65
(*1228)	1250	49	91	108	55	77	90
HSBC	2100	150	197	237	79	134	157
(*2104)	2200	96	158	195	175	195	221
Reuter	600	40	68	75	11	27	27
(*629)	650	20	[illegible]	47	34	45	56
Royal & Sun	500	50	60	75	10	21	26
(*537)	550	21	40	44	21	43	49
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
Blue Circ	390	28	39	44	11	14	[illegible]
(*400)	420	13	23	[illegible]	25	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
Kingfishr	700	57	80	87	22	29	37
(*725)	750	37	55	[illegible]	43	51	62
	Series	**Jun**			**Jun**		
Br Gas	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	260	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Series	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Mar**
Diageo	550	21	57	67	2	22	30
(*568)	600	[illegible]	30	45	42	58	62
EMI Group	520	34	57	69	—	19	24
(*547)	548	21	41	54	15	30	36
Tarmac	110	4	11	15	—	4	6
(*110)	120	[illegible]	6	9	[illegible]	9	11
Hillsdwn	180	20	—	—	6	—	—
(*197)	190	5	—	—	4	—	—
Lonrho	120	7	10	12	2	5	8
(*122)	130	2	9	[illegible]	8	12	[illegible]
Sears	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1300	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	1400	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	300	19	28	32	[illegible]	9	12
(*318)	330	3	12	17	18	21	25
Lloyds TSB	700	45	79	97	17	32	47
(*726)	750	23	53	[illegible]	42	62	75
Scot Pwr	420	39	[illegible]	41	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(*427)	460	5	19	24	33	40	43
Unilever	1900	53	115	161	40	90	98
(*1903)	1900	15	71	113	102	133	152

August 22, 1997 Tot: 37630 Calls: 17747 Puts: 21,502 FTSE Calls: 11594 Puts: 2292

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Sep 97	114-25	114-26	113-29	114-05	113065
Previous open interest 174990	Dec 97	114-14	114-15	113-18	113-26	19552
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Sep 97	102.40	102.43	101.82	102.02	191492
Previous open interest 286571	Dec 97	101.47	101.55	100.96	101.15	4324
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Sep 97	136.35	136.38	135.40	135.89	50716
Previous open interest 118596	Dec 97	108.36	108.37	107.70	108.06	2057
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 97	127.28	127.35	127.25	127.31	2515
	Dec 97	126.54	126.58	126.48	126.55	1072
Three Mth Sterling	Sep 97	92.71	92.72	92.67	92.70	11667
	Dec 97	92.56	92.56	92.51	92.54	20549
Previous open interest 656180	Mar 98	92.53	92.53	92.47	92.51	13793
Three Mth Euromark	Sep 97	96.60	96.63	96.60	96.61	19130
Previous open interest 1640741	Dec 97	96.40	96.42	96.38	96.39	51881
Three Mth Eurolira	Sep 97	93.29	93.28	93.22	93.26	7944
Previous open interest 381498	Dec 97	93.65	93.66	93.55	93.61	22896
Three Mth Euroyen	Dec 97				99.41	0
	Mar 98				99.32	0
Three Mth Euroswiss	Sep 97	98.43	98.46	98.39	98.42	5706
Previous open interest 159976	Dec 97	98.20	98.21	98.08	98.14	17418
Three Mth ECU	Sep 97	95.61	95.61	95.58	95.60	418
Previous open interest 40358	Dec 97	95.51	95.51	95.46	95.48	1015
FTSE 100	Sep 97	4979.0	4984.0	4850.0	4900.0	15500
Previous open interest 76599	Dec 97	5042.0	5036.0	4955.0	4964.0	1617

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7 Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 6½ Week fixed: 7⅛

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7$^{1}/_{16}$; 3 mth 7$^{1}/_{16}$. Sell: 2 mth 6$^{15}/_{16}$; 3 mth: 6$^{15}/_{16}$.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6$^{31}/_{32}$-6$^{27}/_{32}$	6$^{31}/_{32}$-6$^{27}/_{32}$	7-6$^{15}/_{16}$	7⅛-7$^{1}/_{16}$	
Sterling Money Rates:	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7$^{1}/_{32}$	7⅛-7$^{1}/_{16}$	7⅜-7¼	7$^{9}/_{16}$-7$^{15}/_{32}$
Interbank:	7¼-7⅛	7¼-7⅛	7¼-7⅛	7⅜-7¼	7$^{9}/_{16}$-7$^{15}/_{32}$

Overnight: open 7⅜, close 7¼.

Local Authority Deps:	7⅛	n/a	7¼	7⅜	7⅝
Sterling CDs:	7⅛-7$^{1}/_{16}$	7⅛-7$^{1}/_{16}$	7⅛-7$^{1}/_{16}$	7⅜-7¼	7½-7⅜
Dollar CDs:	5.53	n/a	5.60	5.75	5.96
Building Society CDs:	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7$^{1}/_{16}$	7⅛-7⅛	7$^{11}/_{32}$-7¼	7$^{17}/_{32}$-7$^{15}/_{32}$

TREASURY BILLS: Applctn: £775m allotted: £200m: Bids: £98.295% received: 90%: Last week: £98.305% received: 63%. Avge rate: £6.8277% last wk £6.7810%: Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5$^{17}/_{32}$-5$^{13}/_{32}$	5⅝-5½	5$^{11}/_{16}$-5$^{9}/_{16}$	5$^{25}/_{32}$-5$^{21}/_{32}$	5½-4¾
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3	3⅛-3⅛	3⅜-3¼	3¼-2¾
French Franc:	3⅞-3⅝	3⅜-3¼	3⅜-3¼	3½-3⅜	3⅛-2¾
Swiss Franc:	1½-1⅜	1½-1⅜	1$^{9}/_{16}$-1$^{7}/_{16}$	1⅝-1½	1½-¾
Yen:	⅝-½	⅝-½	⅝-½	⅝-½	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $323.45-323.75 **Close:** $324.60-325.10 **High:** $324.60-325.10 **Low:** $321.10-321.60 **AM:** $321.80 **PM:** $324.00

Krugerrand: $324.25-326.35 (£201.25-203.25)

Platinum: $412.00 (£257.20) **Silver:** $4.71 (£2.935) **Palladium:** $198.00 (£123.60)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for August 22	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.2608-3.2854	3.2826-3.2854	1½-1¼pr	3⅞-3pr
Brussels	59.920-60.319	60.201-60.319	22-18pr	58-52pr
Copenhagen	11.056-11.136	11.125-11.136	¼-½pr	1-½pr
Dublin	1.0825-1.0916	1.0894-1.0916	12-8pr	31-26pr
Frankfurt	2.9012-2.9184	2.9157-2.9184	1⅛-1pr	3-2¾pr
Lisbon	294.08-296.09	295.74-296.09	½-¼pr	1⅜-1¼pr
Madrid	245.29-247.32	247.01-247.32	44-34pr	124-106pr
Milan	2830.7-2848.5	2845.9-2848.5	16-1pr	40-19pr
Montreal	2.2101-2.2390	2.2368-2.2390	0.77-0.72pr	1.39-1.31pr
New York	1.5872-1.6057	1.6047-1.6057	0.235-0.215pr	0.625-0.595pr
Oslo	12.094-12.190	12.172-12.190	½-¼pr	1½-1pr
Paris	9.7690-9.8320	9.8243-9.8320	3⅞-3½pr	9⅝-9⅛pr
Stockholm	12.674-12.780	12.760-12.780	¼-⅛pr	1½pr
Tokyo	186.52-188.58	188.31-188.58	1⅜-1¼pr	3⅞-3⅝pr
Vienna	20.418-20.536	20.515-20.536	¼-¼pr	2-1¼pr
Zurich	2.3966-2.4082	2.4051-2.4082	1½-1⅛pr	3⅞-3⅝pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3342-1.3360
Austria	12.77-12.78
Belgium (Com)	37.49-37.50
Canada	1.3935-1.3940
Denmark	6.9130-6.9150
France	6.1160-6.1165
Germany	1.8150-1.8160
Hong Kong	7.7435-7.7445
Ireland	1.4736-1.4756
Italy	1770.75-1771.25
Japan	116.77-116.82
Malaysia	2.7700-2.7750
Netherlands	2.0437-2.0447
Norway	7.5771-7.5821
Portugal	184.25-184.35
Singapore	1.4920-1.4930
Spain	153.51-153.54
Sweden	7.9470-7.9495
Switzerland	1.4958-1.4966

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6038-1.6065
Australia dollar	2.1395-2.1423
Bahrain dinar	0.5910-0.6050
Brazil real*	1.7417-1.7461
China yuan	12.995-13.295
Cyprus pound	0.8455-0.8645
Finland markka	8.6175-8.7585
Greece drachma	451.75-462.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.4074-12.4168
India rupee	57.34-58.04
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4780-0.4890
Malaysia ringgit	4.4417-4.4525
New Zealand dollar	2.4753-2.4795
Pakistan rupee	62.70 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.7075-5.9425
Singapore dollar	2.3924-2.3955
S Africa rand (com)	7.4200-7.5890
U A E dirham	5.7575-5.8935

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

[illegible]

3i	871	Ladbroke	3,100
ASDA Gp	8,200	Land Secs	1,200
Abbey Ntl	2,400	Legal & Gn	2,700
Allnce & Leic	2,400	Lloyds TSB	6,600
Allied Dom	2,700	LucasVarity	682
AB Foods	1,400	Marks Spr	3,200
BAA	1,000	Mercury Ast	421
BAT Inds	4,400	NatWst Bk	4,100
BG	14,500	Nat Grid	7,800
BOC	551	Nat Power	6,700
BP	6,300	Next	638
BSkyB	4,200	Orange	3,600
BTR	13,100	P & O	2,600
BT	180,600	Pearson	1,200
Bk of Scot	2,600	PowerGen	2,300
Barclays	4,800	Prudential	2,400
Bass	1,700	RMC	485
Blue Circle	2,400	Railtrack	1,800
Boots	1,700	Rank Group	3,500
BAe	765	Reckitt Col	606
BA	4,300	Reed Intl	4,700
British Land	470	Rentokil	6,000
Brit Steel	4,300	Reuters	3,200
Burmah Cstl	470	Rio Tinto	1,100
Cable Wire	3,100	Rolls Royce	3,300
Cadbury	1,700	Royal & Sun	7,200
Carlton Cms	1,500	Royal Bk Sct	2,200
Centrica	24,700	Safeway	3,000
Cm Union	2,800	Sainsbury	4,100
Dixons	3,500	Schroders	180
EMI	2,700	Scot & New	1,800
Energy Gp	1,300	Scot Power	10,100
Enterpr Oil	1,100	Svrn Trent	909
GKN	759	Shell Trans	8,700
GRE	3,500	Siebe	747
GUS	2,400	SmKl Bch	6,300
Gen Acc	2,900	Smiths Inds	567
Gen Elec	7,100	Std Chrtrd	2,900
Glaxo Well	3,500	TI Gp	1,200
Granada	1,600	Tate & Lyle	1,500
Grand Met	2,400	Tesco	3,000
Guinness	3,900	Thames W	810
HSBC	3,800	Tomkins	2,100
Halifax	3,800	Unilever	1,300
Hanson	714	Utd Utilities	2,500
Hays	605	Utd News	861
ICI	1,800	Vodafone	11,700
Imp Tob	1,800	Whitbread	363
Kingfisher	1,600	Wolseley	470
LASMO	1,800	Zeneca	1,900

[illegible]

	Aug 22 midday	Aug 21 close
AMP Inc	50¾	51⅛
AMR Corp	105⅝	106⅞
AT & T	39⅛	39⅞
Abbott Labs	60⅞	61⅝
Advanced Micro	41	41⅞
Aetna Life	92⅞	93⅝
Ahmanson (HF)	49⅞	51⅛
Air Prod & Chem	82⅞	82⅞
AirTouch Comm	34⅞	35⅞
Albertson's	34⅛	34⅞
Alcan Alumn	35⅞	36⅛
Allied Signal	84⅞	85⅞
Alum Co of Am	83⅞	84⅞
Amerada Hess	58	58⅞
Amer El Power	42⅞	42⅞
Amer Express	81⅞	81⅞
Amer Genl Corp	49⅞	49⅞
Amer Home Pr	74⅞	74⅞
Amer Intl	98⅞	99⅞
Amer Stores	24⅞	24⅞
Amer Standard	50	50⅞
Ameritech	65⅞	65⅞
Amgen	52	52⅞
Amoco	93⅞	94
Andrew Corp	25⅞	25⅞
Anheuser-Busch	42⅞	43⅞
Apple Computer	23⅞	24
Archer Daniels	21⅞	21
Armco	5⅞	5⅞
Armstrong Wrld	72	72⅞
Asarco	31	31⅞
Atl Richfield	74⅞	74⅞
Atmel Corp	36	36⅞
Auto Data Pro	45⅞	45⅞
Avery Dennison	40⅞	41⅞
Avon Products	67⅞	67⅞
Baker Hughes	41⅞	41⅞
Baltim Gas & El	26⅞	26⅞
Banc One	55⅞	56⅞
BankAmerica	67⅞	68⅞
Bank of NY	46	46⅞
Bankers Tr NY	100⅞	103⅞
Barnett Banks	51⅞	52⅞
Bausch & Lomb	42⅞	42
Baxter Intl	54⅞	55⅞
Becton Dickinsn	48⅞	49⅞
Bell Atlantic	75⅞	75⅞
BellSouth	45⅞	45⅞
Black & Decker	41⅞	40⅞
Block (H&R)	39⅞	40⅞
Boeing	55⅞	56⅞
Boise Cascade	38⅞	38⅞
Boston Scien	72⅞	73⅞
Bristol Myrs Sq	78⅞	78
Browning Ferris	35⅞	35⅞
Brunswick	30⅞	31⅞
Burlington Nthn	91⅞	92⅞
CMS Energy Corp	35⅞	35⅞
CPC Intl	89⅞	89⅞
CSX	58⅞	59
Campbell Soup	48	47⅞
Carolina Pwr	34⅞	34⅞
Case Corp	69⅞	70
Caterpillar	59⅞	60⅞
Central & SW	19⅞	19⅞
Champion Intl	59⅞	60⅞
Chase Manhat	112⅞	115⅞
Chevron Corp	78⅞	78⅞
Chrysler	34⅞	34⅞
Chubb Corp	65⅞	66⅞
Cigna Corp	185	189⅞
Citicorp	135⅞	137⅞
Clorox	138⅞	137⅞
Coastal Corp	59⅞	58
Coca Cola	59⅞	60⅞
Coca Cola Ent	27⅞	28⅞
Colgate-Palm	64⅞	65⅞
Columbia Gas	66	66
Columbia/HCA	32⅞	33⅞
Compaq Comp	58	58⅞
Comp Assoc Intl	64⅞	65⅞
ConAgra	65⅞	66⅞
Cons Edison	30⅞	30⅞
Cons Nat Gas	56⅞	56⅞
Cooper Inds	54⅞	54⅞
Corestates	61⅞	62⅞
Corning Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
C'wide Credit	[illegible]	[illegible]
Crane	[illegible]	[illegible]
Crown Cork	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dana Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dayton Hudson	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deere	[illegible]	[illegible]
Delta Air Lines	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deluxe Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Digital Equip	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dillard Dept St	[illegible]	[illegible]
Disney (Walt)	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dominion Res	[illegible]	[illegible]
Donnelley (RR)	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dover Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dow Chemical	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dow Jones	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dresser	[illegible]	[illegible]
Duke Power	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dun & Bradstreet	[illegible]	[illegible]
DuPont	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eastman Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eastman Kodak	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eaton Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Aug 22 midday	Aug 21 close
Edison Intl	24⅞	24⅞
Elect Data Sys	37⅞	38⅞
Emerson Elec	55⅞	55⅞
Engelhard Corp	19⅞	20⅞
Enron Corp	36⅞	36⅞
Entergy	24⅞	24⅞
Ethyl Corp	8⅞	8⅞
Exxon	61⅞	62⅞
FMC Corp	82⅞	83⅞
FPL Group	46	46⅞
Federal Express	69⅞	70
Fifth Third Banc	80	80⅞
Fleet Finl Grp	64⅞	65⅞
Fluor Corp	56⅞	56⅞
Ford Motor	42⅞	43⅞
Fort James	41⅞	41⅞
Fortune Brands	34⅞	34⅞
Franklin Res	78⅞	79⅞
GTE Corp	45⅞	45⅞
Gannett	97⅞	98⅞
Gap Inc Del	43⅞	44⅞
Gen Dynamics	82⅞	82⅞
Gen Electric	64⅞	65⅞
Gen Mills	65⅞	66⅞
Gen Motors	63⅞	63⅞
Gen Reinsurance	196⅞	197⅞
Gen Signal	45	45⅞
Genuine Parts	31⅞	31⅞
Georgia Pac	92	92⅞
Gillette	84⅞	86
Glaxo Wellc ADR	38⅞	39⅞
Goodrich (BF)	43⅞	43⅞
Goodyear Tire	62⅞	62⅞
Gt Atl Pac Tea	25⅞	25⅞
Great Lakes	45⅞	45⅞
Halliburton	43⅞	44⅞
Harcourt General	47⅞	48⅞
Heinz (HJ)	42⅞	43
Hercules	50⅞	51⅞
Hershey Foods	55⅞	55⅞
Hewlett Packard	63	64
Hilton Hotels	30⅞	31
Home Depot	49⅞	49⅞
Homestake Mng	13⅞	13⅞
Honeywell	70⅞	70⅞
Household Intl	114⅞	117⅞
Houston Inds	20⅞	20⅞
Humana	22⅞	23⅞
ITT Corp	62⅞	63⅞
Ikon Office	28⅞	28⅞
Illinois Tool	48⅞	48⅞
Illinova	22⅞	22⅞
INCO	28⅞	28⅞
Ingersoll Rand	62⅞	62⅞
Inland Steel	20⅞	20⅞
Intel Corp	93	96⅞
IBM	103⅞	105⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	51⅞	52⅞
Intl Paper	54⅞	54⅞
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	58⅞	59⅞
Kellogg	94⅞	95⅞
Kerr-McGee	67⅞	67⅞
Kimberly-Clark	49⅞	49⅞
Kmart	13⅞	13⅞
Knight-Ridder	51⅞	51⅞
Lilly (Eli)	109⅞	110⅞
Limited Inc	22⅞	22⅞
Lincoln Nat	67⅞	67⅞
Litton	47	47
Liz Claiborne	45⅞	46⅞
Lockheed Martin	105⅞	106⅞
Louisiana Pac	22	22⅞
MCI Comm	39⅞	39⅞
Manpower Inc	48⅞	48⅞
Marriott Intl	69⅞	69⅞
Marsh & McLenn	71⅞	71⅞
Masco Corp	48⅞	49⅞
May Dept St	53⅞	53⅞
Maytag Corp	27⅞	27⅞
McDonalds	48⅞	48⅞
McGraw Hill	62⅞	62⅞
Mead Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Medtronic	91	91⅞
Mellon Bk	48⅞	48⅞
Merck Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mercury Fin	[illegible]	[illegible]
Merrill Lynch	[illegible]	[illegible]
Microsoft	134⅞	137⅞
Minnesota Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mirage Resorts	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mobil Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Monsanto	[illegible]	[illegible]
Morgan (JP)	[illegible]	[illegible]
Motorola Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mylan Labs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Natl Semi	[illegible]	[illegible]
Natl Service Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Navistar Intl	[illegible]	[illegible]
NY Times A	[illegible]	[illegible]
Newmont Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nike B	[illegible]	[illegible]
NL Industries	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nordstrom	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norfolk Sthrn	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nthn States Pwr	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norwest Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Occidental Pet	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ohio Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oracle	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oryx Energy Co	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Aug 22 midday	Aug 21 close
Owens Corning	40⅞	40⅞
PPG Industries	61⅞	62⅞
PMI Group	57⅞	57⅞
PNC Bank	42⅞	43⅞
PP&L Res	20⅞	21
Paccar Inc	46⅞	47⅞
Pacificorp	21	21
Pac Enterprises	32⅞	33
Pall Corp	23⅞	23⅞
Parker Hannifin	63⅞	64⅞
Peco Energy	22⅞	22⅞
Penney (JC)	60⅞	61⅞
Pennzoil	77⅞	77⅞
Pepsico	35⅞	36⅞
Pfizer	55	55⅞
Pharm & Upjhn	34⅞	35⅞
Phelps Dodge	82⅞	82⅞
Philip Morris	43⅞	44⅞
Phillips Pet	47⅞	47⅞
Pitney Bowes	79	78⅞
Polaroid	53⅞	54⅞
Procter & Gmbl	135⅞	138
Providian	37⅞	37⅞
Pub Serv E & G	24⅞	24⅞
Quaker Oats	49⅞	49⅞
Ralston Purina	89⅞	89⅞
Raychem Corp	94⅞	95⅞
Raytheon	55⅞	56
Reebok Intl	47⅞	47⅞
Reynolds Metals	74⅞	75⅞
Rockwell Intl	60⅞	60⅞
Rohm & Haas	96⅞	96⅞
Royal Dutch	51⅞	52⅞
Rubbermaid	24⅞	24⅞
SBC Comms	59⅞	59⅞
Safeco Corp	47⅞	47⅞
St Paul's Cos	75⅞	75⅞
Sallie Mae	138⅞	139
Salomon Inc	61	62⅞
Sara Lee Corp	40⅞	40⅞
Schering Plough	49⅞	50
Schlumberger	73⅞	74⅞
Seagram	35⅞	35⅞
Sears Roebuck	58⅞	58⅞
Shell Trans	40⅞	41⅞
Sherwin Wlms	30⅞	30⅞
Silicon Graphics	26⅞	27⅞
Snap-On-Tools	40⅞	41
Southern Co	21⅞	21⅞
Southtrust	43⅞	44⅞
Sprint Corp	47⅞	47⅞
Stanley Works	42⅞	43⅞
Sun Company	37⅞	37⅞
Sun Microsys	49⅞	51⅞
Suntrust	60⅞	61⅞
Supervalu	40⅞	41
Synovus Fin	25⅞	25⅞
Sysco Corp	36⅞	36⅞
TRW Inc	55⅞	55⅞
TIG Hldgs	31⅞	31⅞
Tandem Comp	33⅞	37⅞
Tandy Corp	66⅞	66⅞
Temple Inland	66⅞	66⅞
Tenet Healthcare	27⅞	27⅞
Tenneco	45⅞	45⅞
Texaco	116	116⅞
Texas Inst	120	125
Texas Utilities	34⅞	34⅞
Textron	62	62⅞
Thermo Elect	38	38⅞
Time Warner	50⅞	50⅞
Times-Mirror A	51⅞	51⅞
Timken	37	37⅞
Torchmark	37⅞	38⅞
Toys R Us	34	34⅞
Transamerica	97	98⅞
Travelers	67⅞	67⅞
Tribune	49⅞	49⅞
UST Inc	28⅞	28⅞
US Bancorp	87⅞	88⅞
UAL	78⅞	79⅞
US Inds	36⅞	36⅞
US West Comm	37⅞	37⅞
US West Media	20⅞	20⅞
USAirways Group	36⅞	36⅞
USX Marathon	32⅞	32⅞
Unicom	23⅞	23⅞
Unilever NY	215⅞	217⅞
Union Camp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Union Carbide	[illegible]	[illegible]
Union Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Unisys Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
UNUM Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
United Tech	[illegible]	[illegible]
Unocal Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
VF Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wal-Mart Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]
Warner-Lambert	135⅞	136⅞
Waste Mngmt	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wells Fargo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Westinghouse El	[illegible]	[illegible]
Weyerhaeuser	[illegible]	[illegible]
Whirlpool	[illegible]	[illegible]
Whitman	[illegible]	[illegible]
Winn Dixie	[illegible]	[illegible]
Worthington	[illegible]	[illegible]
Woolworth	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	[illegible]	[illegible]
Xerox	[illegible]	[illegible]
Xerox Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

FIGHTING BACK 39

Flat-owners to benefit from new tribunals

WEEKEND MONEY

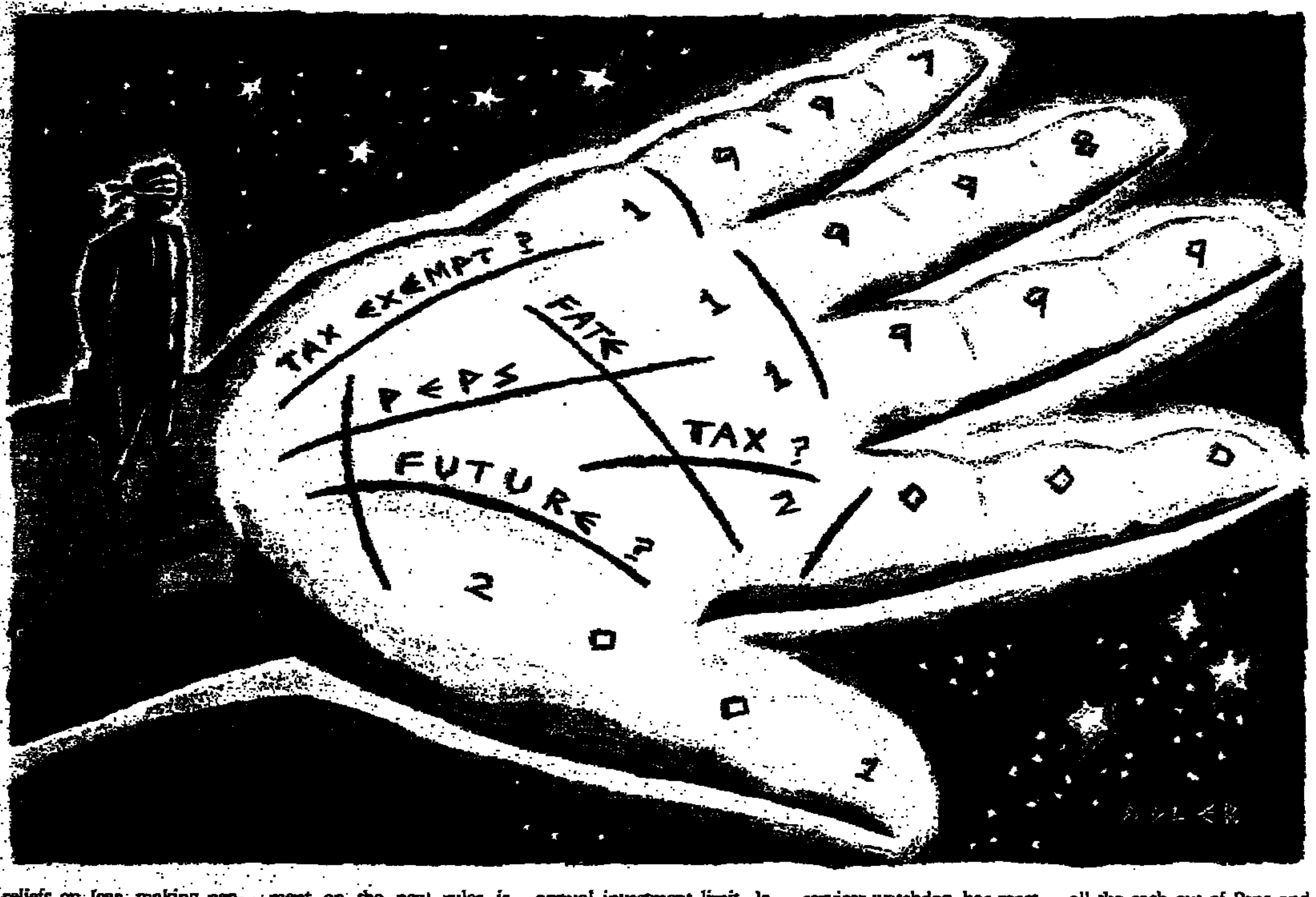
PERSONAL TOUCH 35

Paying through the nose for cosmetic surgery

TH[illegible]MES: PERSONAL FINANCE NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Investors left in the dark

Anne Ashworth and **John Givens** *on growing fears over the future of savings schemes*


TAX EXEMPT ?
FATE
PEPS
TAX ?
FUTURE ?

Bronzed and rested, the Chancellor will return from his summer holidays only to regain his normal pallor at the sight of the large bundle of mail from investors and fund managers seeking to know more about the fate of the two most popular savings schemes of the era, the personal equity plan (Pep) and the tax-exempt special savings account (Tessa).

Individuals saving in Peps and Tessas for their retirement, or to repay mortgages, believe that the Government is providing too little information on how the schemes will be replaced in 1999 by Labour's scheme to encourage long-term thrift, the individual saving account (Isa). This new account will invest in both cash and shares.

The Chancellor will also learn of other concerns. Some advisers are now giving warning that the debut of the Isa threatens to be the first mis-selling scandal of the new millennium. Don Clark of Pep Direct, the specialist Pep adviser, has written to Gordon Brown to point out that the change in the law that introduced personal pensions gave unscrupulous salesmen the opportunity to encourage individuals to change their arrangements. The launch of the Isa could provide another such sales bonanza.

Others would like Mr Brown to spill the beans on how the Isa tax breaks will compare with those given on pensions. Tom King of Standard Life, the insurance group, said: "Following the abolition of the dividend tax credit, the tax breaks on pensions have now been reduced in value. Will the Chancellor give more generous tax reliefs on Isas, making pensions less worthwhile?"

The income tax benefits of the Pep will disappear in April 1999. Holders will no longer be entitled to reclaim the dividend tax credit (the tax deducted from share dividends before they are paid out). Since their launch in 1987, Peps have been free of both income tax and capital gains tax. It seems likely that Tessas will simultaneously shed their tax advantages, although this was not made entirely clear by the Chancellor in his Budget speech last month.

A consultation document on the savings review is due in the autumn but no announcement on the new rules is expected until next spring.

Investors who have poured some £29 billion into Peps over the past decade do not know whether they will be permitted to continue to store their investments in Peps once the tax relief has disappeared. Even before the value of the tax relief is taken into account, it has often been cheaper to buy a Pep rather than a similar unit trust.

Many believe that they will not be able to transfer their total accumulated Pep holdings into Isas. The Chancellor intends that this new scheme should appeal to those on low incomes. This suggests that there will be a relatively low annual investment limit. Jason Hollands of BESt Investment suspects that Isas will be more restrictive than Peps, with a cap on the total levels invested, a minimum holding period and a tighter definition of the types of shares that can be bought.

The Inland Revenue can shed no light on any of this. A spokesman said: "We know nothing more than what was announced in the Budget, and until we do, we cannot say what form the individual investment accounts will take and what the effect will be on Peps and Tessas."

The Personal Investment Authority (PIA), the financial services watchdog, has reacted to the Chancellor's plans by warning brokers and investment houses that they should not encourage the sale of Peps with "buy now while stocks last" tactics and that they should warn potential investors that Peps might not exist in two years' time.

Don Clark advised investors not to panic. He said: "The work involved for investment houses to transfer all the cash out of Peps and into other schemes would be horrendous. This alone would prevent any plans to totally abolish the Pep."

The Halifax says it will be business as usual until something happens which invalidates Pep mortgages. A spokeswoman said: "Even if Peps are abolished altogether we expect that investors will be able to transfer the funds from Peps into Isas."

All-share index outshines M&G underachievers

With doubt hanging over the long-term future of Peps it is now more important than ever for investors to monitor the performance of their Pep fund managers.

Paradoxically, the rise in the stock market makes this task more difficult, because when share prices are going up even mediocre managers can make some money. But they may still be failing to match the rise in the market, or provide reasonable value for their customers.

A good way to measure is to compare your Pep against a benchmark such as the FTSE all-share index. BESt Investment, the Pep specialist, has compiled a list of 148 Peps that have failed to beat this index over the past three years. It has put leading Pep provider M&G in the doghouse after nine of the company's UK equity Peps featured in the list. Eight of these funds have underperformed the index in each of the three years since July 1994. Murray Johnstone also performed badly with five funds in the list.

Investors who put £100 into M&G's Capital, Compound Growth, Dividend, Equity Income, Midland & General, Recovery, Second General, Smaller Companies and UK Smaller Companies Peps three years ago have got between £22 and £68 less than the £170 they would have got from simply tracking the FTSE all-share index. John Spiers, managing director of BESt Investment, is urging his clients to consider switching from M&G to other Pep providers such as Perpetual, Gartmore, Credit Suisse and Fidelity.

He says M&G's problems are threefold. The loss of successful managers at the end of the 1980s has been compounded by the company's fixation with value investing. This approach favours medium-sized manufacturers who aim to pay ever-increasing amounts in dividends. Unfortunately, these are exactly the kind of enterprises which have suffered in the 1990s. Although the company is trying to put things right, he believes new management and an investment review can lead only to short-term instability.

He said: "The best you can say about M&G is that the future is uncertain. The worst is that the underperformance of the last three years will continue."

Vivien Bazalgette, M&G's head of investment, urges investors to stick with their funds. The strong pound has recently showed signs of weakening. He predicts that when it falls, it will boost the prospects for small and mid-capitalisation stocks. "Although we would much prefer to be outperforming, the key thing is that the outlook is very favourable."

In the future, M&G will diversify into growth funds.

GAVIN LUMSDEN

WEEKEND MONEY
is edited by Anne Ashworth

A&L compensation admission

The Alliance & Leicester has admitted that it may have to pay compensation to shareholders who missed out on the opportunity of putting their windfall shares into a Pep through no fault of their own.

A small proportion of A&L members were notified of their eligiblity for shares only after the former building society floated on the stock market on April 21. Many complained that this prevented them from transferring their shares into the tax-free shelter of a Pep.

Under Inland Revenue rules, windfall investors have 42 days from the date they are allocated their shares to put them into a Pep. These shares do not count towards an individual's Pep allowance and can go on top of any existing Pep investment, even if a person holds the maximum £6,000 in a general Pep or £3,000 in a single-company Pep.

The original deadline for the A&L shareholders, which was the first building society to convert, was June 1. In May the society-turned-bank started talks with the Revenue to see if its group of late shareholders could have 42 days from the day they received the shares rather than the date of flotation. These discussions heated up two weeks ago when it was revealed that the Revenue had confirmed that up to 10,000 Woolwich members, who had not received share certificates, could do this. This was because Woolwich had chosen its date of allocation to match the date on the certificate.

On the same day the Halifax was also told that its members, who had been told of their eligibility after its flotation, also had 42 days from the date of their notification. This situation mirrored the A&L's.

This week the Alliance & Leicester finally got its confirmation from the Revenue. Unfortunately, the time that has passed since the flotation means many shareholders may still be ruled out.

A spokeswoman said the company had done everything to seek clarification and would write to the shareholders next week. This will be particularly galling for some investors because the Revenue has previously ruled that Pep applications can initially be made without a share certificate in order to meet the deadline.

GAVIN LUMSDEN

Fear fuels a seasonal storm

PERSONAL INVESTOR

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Fearful Fridays and Mogadon Mondays cannot go on for long. People learn and anticipate. On Wall Street, traders took precautions on Thursday against the threat of another bad Friday, bringing losses forward. And the big money investors will be back at their desks within a fortnight, sorting out strategies for autumn.

At least some of the volatility of recent weeks has been because of lack of real trade. Market insiders have been playing among themselves, accounting for much of the business done. Prices tend to flick up and down day to day in illiquid markets. In this climate, London market-makers sensibly battened down the hatches at the expense of investors yesterday, knowing that London would be shut on Monday, when other markets are open.

These sharp movements intensify fears of a really big 1987-style break in prices. To a much lesser extent, they increase the risk. So far, there has been more worry than substance. By way of comparison, the Dow Jones index fell about 10 per cent around March without such drama. It fell because the US Federal Reserve Board raised short-term interest rates, exciting immediate speculation that there could be more to come. In the event, the Fed has not moved since. It confirmed this week that it still has no reason to move.

In the UK, interest rates have gone up four times. But they have risen only 1 per cent. Now the Bank of England has called a halt, preferably for at least three months, at a level lower than most City economists were bargaining for. Germany's Bundesbank does not want to raise rates either. It hates the mark's weakness but has so far managed to talk up the currency by raising the possibility of action, now reinforced by saying it will fix its market rate weekly. The foreign exchanges have calmed down. Speculators are likely to call the Bundesbank's bluff again at some time. Today, turmoil is confined to South-East Asia.

This very lack of substance in part explains the fears that have clearly built up over shares prices. At the start of 1997, most long-term analysts thought prices were a touch ahead of profit growth in Britain and pretty high relative to profits in America. This was not going to be much of a year for shares. Continuing low interest rates in America and international buying of London blue chips have belied that, sending prices up about a fifth.

Cautious investors who missed out have used price setbacks to buy, the classic bull market psychology. But many are looking over their shoulders, feeling that it is too good to last. In America, the Fed stood back because the economy is steady. As a series of disappointing announcements from big companies has shown, that means profits are not growing fast enough to justify their shares trading at an all-market average of 25 times earnings. In the UK, ratings are generally lower and dividends comfortingly higher, but sterling's strength has been cutting analysts' profit forecasts month by month.

If this fear outlasts an agitated August, then a bear market psychology could take over. Instead of seeing setbacks as buying opportunities, investors then use price recoveries as an opportunity to sell and recoup any paper losses made since the last peak.

Long-term investors can usually afford to ride through stock market corrections and short bear markets without trying to be too clever. There are no economic threats to justify any market setback worse than that. Fund managers too are more relaxed than when their computer programs all sold Wall Street at the same time in 1987. Portfolios can be hedged more effectively in derivatives markets that have grown so rapidly in the past ten years.

Others do not have this luxury, because they have to sell investments sometime soon to take a pension, spend on a house or pay college fees. In future, many more will have to make these tricky decisions. When markets are nervous, they should not wait for prices to bounce back to new peaks.

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مكتبة الأهرام

A QUESTION OF MONEY

Tax change acts as catalyst for rise of the Fid

Watch out — there's a new acronym about. Meet the Fid, the foreign income dividend, brought to prominence by the Budget change to the dividend *tax credit. Gordon Brown's* most sweeping tax measure.

Formerly pension funds and other *tax-exempt investors,* such as personal equity plan (Pep) holders and charities, were entitled to reclaim the 20 per cent dividend tax credit. When a company distributes a dividend, it deducts advance corporation tax at a rate of 20 per cent. This ACT becomes the dividend tax credit.

The Chancellor put an end to this concession, with immediate effect for pension funds and from 1999 for Pep holders.

Charities will also be deprived of the right to claim the dividend tax credit in 1999 but they will be compensated for this until the 2003-04 tax year. But Pep holders and charities are already starting to feel the pinch because many larger companies are now deciding to pay their dividends in a different way.

Since pension funds are the biggest investors in the UK stock market, companies were happy to oblige them by paying dividends out of their UK earnings. Now that pension funds cannot reclaim the tax, many big companies with large overseas earnings are opting to pay their dividends from such income because these payments escape UK tax (the Treasury takes the view that overseas earnings have already been taxed in the country where they are earned).

Q Which companies are choosing to pay a Fid?

A Only large companies, those with high overseas earnings, are in a position to do this. *Unfortunately,* it is these companies that are favoured by Pep investors. BAT, Glaxo Wellcome, Tate & Lyle, BTR and Shell have paid Fids. After the tax change, others have joined their ranks, including the Prudential and EMI.

Q What difference will this make to funds which benefit from tax relief such as charities and Peps?

A When companies distribute a dividend, they pay ACT. However, as no ACT is payable on a Fid, charities, Peps, or non-taxpayers cannot reclaim the tax.

Q How much do investors stand to lose?

A If a company declared a normal dividend of 12.2p per share, then the non-taxpayers, Peps and charities could claim back 20 per cent — a dividend of 15.25p. This additional amount would not be payable if the 12.2p dividend was paid via a Fid.

Investors must hope that the companies opting to pay a Fid will pay increased dividends to make up the difference.

CAROLINE MERRELL

The self-defeating rate rise

Karen Zagor says banks do no one any favours by offering a raw deal to savers on interest

COLIN SHEPHERD

Ann and Peter Flinders rely on extra interest to supplement their pensions when it comes to holidays

Another week, another mortgage rate rise. The scenario is becoming far too familiar for savers who, in recent *months,* have seen their *mortgage* payments rise faster than the returns on their savings accounts.

The latest round of mortgage rate rises raises questions about whether Britain's banks are doing enough to reward savers and whether the gap between borrowing *and savings rates* is *widening.* By and large bank savings rates, in comparison with the real rate of interest, are paltry. Real *interest rates* — which are base rates minus inflation — now stand at about 4.3 per cent. This compares with 3.1 per cent in the US and about 1.5 per cent in Germany.

Ian Harwood, head of strategy and economics at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, says: "UK rates are relatively high when compared with Europe and the US. The argument is that they need to be high because inflationary pressures are perceived to be high and our inflation record is worse than other countries'. Clearly the UK economy is stronger.

"Consumer spending is very strong and this week's retail sales *showed the strongest levels in many years.* But we don't believe that consumers are as gung-ho as they were in the 1980s."

Higher real interest rates are intended to dampen spending by discouraging borrowing. Ultimately, they should keep a lid on inflation. But they *should* also encourage savings and, so far, savings rates are not rising fast enough for that to happen.

It is the banks and some of the former building societies that have been particularly remiss in rewarding savers. The Halifax, which as a building society could be relied upon to offer some of the most competitive rates on the market, is no longer setting the pace. In *Moneyfacts'* weekly charts of the best savings rates available — measuring *instant access and* postal *accounts,* notice accounts and bonds, monthly income accounts, interest-paying cheque accounts, fixed-rate accounts and Tessas — the *Halifax appears* in *only two* charts. Its interest-paying cheque account is competitive, with rates starting at 4.35 per cent, but the minimum deposit is £5,000.

The Halifax's fixed-rate account is also competitive, but its rates are far from the best available. For one year, with a *minimum deposit* of £2,000, the Halifax will pay 6.9 per cent.

On a similar product, the Portman pays 7.25 per cent *with* a *minimum* of £1,000, Norwich & Peterborough Building Society pays 7.2 per cent on a *minimum of* £5,000 and the Woolwich pays 7 per cent on a minimum of £500.

> **Higher rates should encourage saving but they are not rising fast enough for that to happen**

The Halifax has said it will increase its savings rates *in* September. Meanwhile, its standard variable mortgage rate *rose to 8.45 per cent from* 8.2 per cent on August 15.

One reason for the *Halifax's absence on the Moneyfacts* savings charts is that it does not have postal operations. When compared *with other* branch-based accounts, the Halifax's instant access account is competitive, paying 3.9 per cent on a *balance of* £5,000.

This is the same as the rate offered by Nationwide. But it is significantly lower than the 6.75 per cent *offered by the* Cheltenham & Gloucester on deposits starting at £1,000 through its telephone-based instant transfer account.

Clydesdale Bank is paying 6.5 per cent on balances as low as £25, but only four free withdrawals from the account are allowed each year, after which there is a 50p charge for each withdrawal.

With this week's news of another rise in consumer *spending,* there is real concern that base rates may rise again before long, making fixed-income products more of a *risk* for consumers. This has not, however, deterred Ann and Peter Flinders from taking out a one-year fixed-interest bond *with Portman Building Society.*

"We realise that interest rates could rise again, so my wife and I tend to hedge our *bets rather than putting all the capital* available into one bond. That way we will have money at hand in case there is another rise in rates," *said Mr Flinders.* "The Portman tends to bring out new bonds when there is a change in market forces, and when *the rate rose to* 7.25 per cent we decided it was a good time to buy," he added.

The Flinderses, who are both retired, invest mainly for income. Mr Flinders said: "We both have pensions, which are not enormous but are enough to live on, so the additional interest from investment enables us to take better holidays than we would otherwise be able to afford."

PHIL YEOMANS

Geoffrey Waldren aims to form an action group

Woolwich blunders could be costly

Many Woolwich shareholders are still waiting for their *shares, despite the society's* flotation having taken place more than six weeks ago. In the intervening *period the share price has fallen by* nearly 18 per cent.

The administrative mistakes seem *to be affecting various categories of* shareholders. Details of customers with Tessa accounts have gone astray, while *the details* of some eligible shareholders seem to have disappeared altogether.

The Woolwich is admitting that at least 10,000 of its 2.7 million shareholders are affected. The actual number affected by the blunders may be considerably greater.

The delays in sending out share documentation and certificates have so enraged the son of one 90-year-old *shareholder that he is trying to set up* a group with the intention of bringing legal action against the Woolwich.

Geoffrey Waldren, from Poole, Dorset, has consulted the London solicitors Max Bitel, Greene about the *possibility of taking action against the* bank. Mr Waldren is particularly interested in hearing from Woolwich *shareholders entitled to shares* but allocated none, or where a material number were underallocated.

He also wants to hear from those Woolwich shareholders who intended *to sell their shares at the earliest* opportunity. The delays in sending out his father's certificates could have cost around £600 — *the difference* between the price on the first day and the price he was actually able to sell at.

Mr Waldren believes that an action group would only be viable if around 1,000 people were willing to participate. *He said:* "What *appears to have* happened is that the programs which selected qualifying members failed to pick up swaths of members, and in other cases all the qualifying accounts of a member who was offered an allocation. These errors meant that thousands of people received no *allocation letters.*

"Branches and several helplines or information lines were only allowed to *take details from members,* who were told that it would be three weeks before they got an answer. Our view that the Woolwich could be liable to consequential damages has its focus on the responsibilities of directors prior to vesting day."

Geoffrey Waldren, 6 Northmere Drive, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, BH12 4DU. Tel: 01202 382032.

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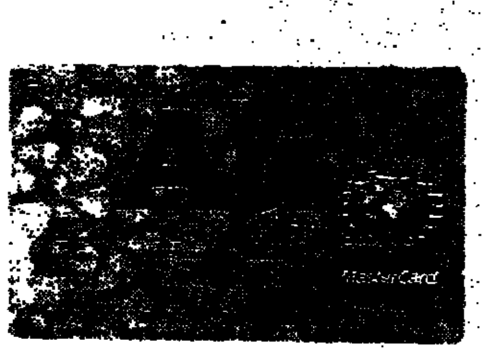

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Hopelessly devoted to the Halifax

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

The Halifax has a strange hold over its customers, whose devotion has seemingly been strengthened by their transformation from members to shareholders. Halifaxers just can't break away, despite rising mortgage rates and saver returns that seldom star in best buy tables.

Their loyalty is more than mere inertia, or a liking for the convenience of an extensive branch network. The little Xtra we hear so much about is obviously addictive.

Some borrowers have left to take advantages of the numerous discounted offers at the mutuals. But surprising numbers seem happy to pay the new higher mortgage rate.

Savers are equally steadfast. Most of those who sold their shares returned the cash to Halifax accounts. Since flotation, savings balances have actually increased by £3.6 billion, despite greater competition in this market. Only 30 per cent of the 7.6 million windfall beneficiaries have disposed of their holdings, leaving a share register bristling with the faithful.

The Halifax has now mentioned the possibility of yet more payouts. If the bank cannot find a suitable acquisition, it may use some of its £3.5 billion spare cash to pay a special dividend.

Filled with a warm glow, Halifaxers may be now even less likely to dispose of their stakes, or to take their savings and mortgage custom elsewhere. For their own good, they should become a little more hard-headed. Halifax shares are worth holding for the excitement ahead. But for a better mortgage or savings deal, try a mutual.

Inaction stations

THE Government is eager to encourage us to become long-term savers. However, it is doing little to make the task easier. The dividend tax changes in the Budget have made pensions rather less attractive. Meanwhile, Pep and Tessa holders have no idea exactly how, in 1999, the Chancellor proposes to replace these schemes with his own brainchild, the Isa.

Most agree that individuals should make the best of Pep and Tessa tax breaks while they last. But when you are investing for the next century, it is reassuring to know something of what the rules will be two years hence.

In this uncertainty it would be all too easy to use the lack of information as an excuse to do nothing. Another justification for inertia is the miserable performance of many Peps where the charges outweigh the tax benefits

But inaction is the riskiest option of all. The changes to the dividend tax credit could mean that pensions could be reduced by as much as 15 per cent. You have been warned.

Truly personal banking

Borrowers pay through the nose with loans for cosmetic surgery, says **Caroline Merrell**

The quest for the perfect face and body has led to a big increase in applications for loans to pay for plastic surgery. A recent survey by the Yorkshire Bank showed that requests for cash loans made to banks have included applications for money to have cosmetic surgery such as breast enhancement, liposuction and face remodelling.

Chris Herbert, head of customer service for Yorkshire Bank, said: "While house renovations and new cars are still high on the wanted list, more personal desires such as renovations to flagging good looks and a need to create a new you now regularly feature among the loan applications throughout our branch network.

"We expect to see more and more of our clients choosing to spread the payment for anything from the body beautiful to a lifetime's ambition to fly."

The costs of cosmetic surgery start at around £2,000 for liposuction and will rise to around £12,000 for a facelift carried out by a top American surgeon. A typical breast enhancement operation will set you back somewhere between £4,000 and £5,000.

Anyone who does opt for a personal loan to pay for plastic surgery will end up paying thousands of pounds of interest. Apart from credit card debt, unsecured loans are the most expensive way of borrowing. The less the amount to be borrowed, the higher the interest rate will be. The interest will be charged at a fixed rate throughout the period of the loan.

For instance, Barclays will charge an interest rate of 20.9 per cent on loans of between £500 and £2,999, while a £5,000 loan will attract an interest rate of 15.9 per cent. The monthly repayments on the loan spread over five years would be £119, bringing the total repayments to £7,140.

Anyone who does take out a personal loan will be given the option of insurance cover which will pay off the loan in the event of redundancy or sickness. This costs an additional £24 per month.

NatWest currently has a special offer on its personal loans. Sums of between £500 and £2,000 can be borrowed at an interest rate of 16.9 per cent. Amounts between £2,000 and £4,000 will cost 14.9 per cent, £4,100 to £7,000 will carry a rate of 13.9 per cent and loans of more than that amount carry an interest rate of 11.9 per cent. A £5,000 loan with NatWest would cost £113.99 month without insurance, and £139 per month with insurance. The total cost of the loan would be £6,780 without insurance, or £8,377 with insurance.

Direct Line has among the lowest unsecured loan rates available. It offers rates of between 11.8 per cent and 17.9 per cent on loans of between £1,999 and £15,000.

Anyone who does take out a personal loan should read the small print carefully. Some companies, such as TSB and Sainsbury's Bank, will charge a redemption penalty if the loan is paid off early. Some will charge higher rates if the insurance is not arranged, while others will not offer insurance at all.

The actual insurance policy taken out should also be checked thoroughly. For example, policies will not cover pregnancy or related complications. If you are sacked, you may not be covered. If you are made redundant, often the cover will not begin immediately. It will also not pay for more than one year's repayments.

You are not automatically covered if you are self-employed and then become bankrupt, and you may not be covered if you are on contract and your contract is simply not renewed.

AA Insurance, Alliance & Leciester, First Direct, Halifax and TSB offer specific loans aimed at those who wish to buy cars. For example, loans of between £1,000 and £15,000 will cost between 12.7 per cent and 16.7 per cent from AA Insurance. Non-members will be charged a higher amount. Halifax will charge 15.9 per cent for loans for cars, regardless of the amount borrowed.

Credit scoring is fairly stringent on personal loans. Loans of more than £15,000 are unusual, which would be a disappointment for one of Yorkshire Bank's customers who wanted £20,000 to improve the front drive of his home. Asked why it would cost so much, the customer admitted that only £2,000 of the loan was for the new drive and the rest was for a Porsche to put on it.

The looks that helped to make Pamela Anderson famous can be yours — at a price

Rock unlocks savers' cage

THE 900,000 savers and borrowers with the Northern Rock Building Society are now completely free to move their savings if they wish. The final qualifying date for conversion was yesterday, which means that savers could now close their accounts but still benefit from the 500 free shares.

At the beginning of September, the society plans to send qualifying members full details of the share allocation, which comprises a flat distribution of 500 shares. Those who are both savers and borrowers will benefit from two lots of 500 shares.

Northern Rock aims to float on October 3. Unlike the other converting building societies, the Northern Rock will not be offering its members a personal equity plan (Pep), nor has it committed itself to offering members a free dealing service.

A spokesman said: "We will be offering a dealing service, but we have not yet announced the terms."

Six months ago, the Northern Rock's advisers estimated that shares in the society would be worth between 260p and 295p. This would produce a windfall of between £1,300 and £1,475.

However, since then, the shares of many of the financial companies have rocketed ahead. This could mean that Northern Rock savers and borrowers will be able to look forward to even larger payouts.

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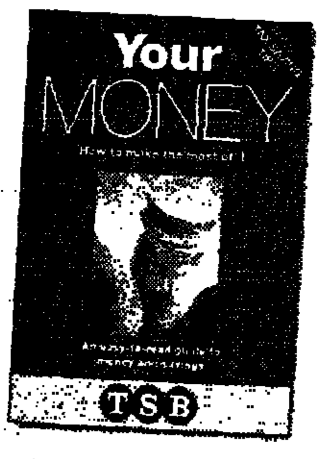

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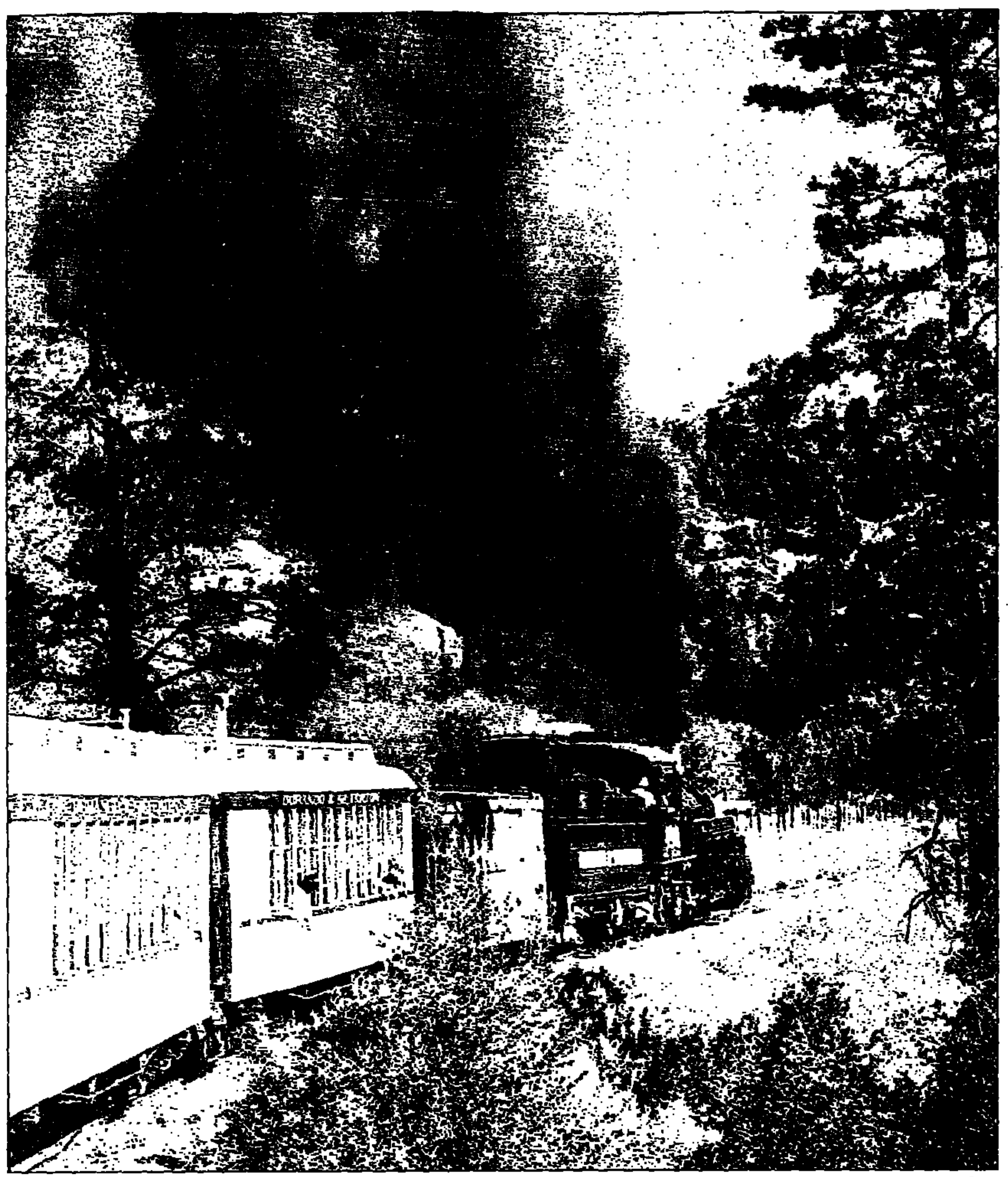

Many investment trusts were established in the mid-Victorian era to invest in the shares of American railway companies

A safer way to travel into 'share' territory

Jill Insley looks at how investors who are wary of buying equities can enjoy at least some rewards

TRUST WATCH

Investing in shares has proved to be one of the most successful ways of making money. Over longer periods of time, shares have consistently outperformed government bonds and building society accounts.

But for many investors, the idea of putting money in shares is too risky. Most do not have the time or inclination to watch for the warning signals that share prices are about to fall.

Investment trusts provide an answer for those who do not want the worry of investing directly in the stock market but want to enjoy the potential returns. Trusts give easy and relatively cheap access to professional fund management, and risk is reduced by pooling money with other investors to buy a wider range of shares.

An investment trust is a company that invests in the shares of other companies. Many were established in the mid-Victorian era to invest in shares of the new American railway companies.

Like any other type of company, it is split into a fixed number of shares that can be bought and sold on the Stock Exchange. But rather than manufacturing goods or providing services, an investment trust is designed to produce capital growth, income, or sometimes both from its investment portfolio.

The fact that an investment trust is itself a company often leads to a disparity between the price at which its shares sell and the value of its investment portfolio. If the trust's shares are in great demand, their price can rise above the value of the investment portfolio. The shares are then described as being at a premium to the net asset value of the trust.

Martin Mullany, of Brooks Macdonald Gayer, the London independent financial adviser, says that buying trust shares at a premium is an expensive way to invest. "Unless you really like the trust and the way it is managed, it is probably better to invest in a unit trust which has similar strategy and goals," he says. More often, however, the price of trust shares is less than the value of the trust's investment portfolio. Such shares are at a discount to the net asset value of the trust. It is sometimes suggested that discounted shares are attractive to bargain hunters, because they are effectively getting more investment for their money.

However, investors will only benefit from their "bargain" shares if the discount has narrowed by the time they decide to sell their shares. Discounts can narrow if demand for shares increases — either through people buying shares as investments or because the trust manager decides to buy back shares.

M&G announced plans this week for a £35 million share buyback on its Equity Investment Trust. It hopes the move will narrow the trust's share discount of 21 per cent.

Unfortunately, it is perfectly possible for discounts to widen still further to the disadvantage of investors. This in fact is what has happened over the past three years. Trusts that stand at big discounts may also become the target of arbitrageurs. These professional investors shake the trust's managers into some action to narrow the discount. The appearance of arbitrageurs on the share register of the Fleming Far Eastern Investment Trust recently spurred Flemings into proposing reconstruction plans to unlock some of the value of the trust's investment portfolio. The move caused an immediate rise in the share price and reduced the discount from 12 per cent to just over 8 per cent.

Sometimes arbitrageurs buy up and close down a trust to realise the value of its underlying investments. Either way, the private investor can benefit.

The rules governing investment trusts provide a second way for investors to buy into more shares than their money may warrant. Trusts can borrow against their assets, a process known as gearing. This enables the trust manager to buy more shares for his investment portfolio, thus boosting the value of the investor's holding.

But gearing can backfire if interest rates rise or the stock market falls. The trust manager can end up paying more for the loan than he is earning on the investments bought with the borrowed money.

The purchase and management charges for investment trusts tend to be the lowest in the market for professionally managed investments. The upfront charges comprise the stockbroker's commission (typically 1.5 per cent to 1.8 per cent) and stamp duty of 0.5 per cent. Annual management charges are often less than 1 per cent and are taken automatically from the fund.

Many investment trust managers offer savings schemes that use their bulk-buying power to negotiate low commission charges for investors buying shares. Schroders' savings scheme, for example, makes a 1 per cent charge for buying shares in its UK Growth trust. These schemes also enable investors to buy shares on a monthly basis without having to give fresh instructions to a stockbroker each time.

Investment trust shares also qualify for inclusion in personal equity plans, so shareholders can enjoy any growth or income free of tax. Investment trust Peps cost slightly more to run, incurring Pep administration fees in addition to the trust's charges.

The rules allow a second way for investors to buy into more shares than their money may warrant

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Last week's stock market turbulence may deter many investors from buying shares for the time being. The UK stock market has been scaling new heights all year, and many professional investors believe that share prices will soon crash. However, Ian Millward, of Chase de Vere Investments, thinks investors should still take the plunge. He says nervous investors should consider buying shares on a monthly basis through a savings scheme. "It's very hard to predict exactly when a correction is likely to take place," he says. "People who stay out of the market could miss out on good returns in the meantime."

On that basis, *The Times* asked three independent financial advisers to recommend their favourite growth and income investment trusts:

Richard Boyton, Fraser Smith.
Trust: Framlington Dual capital share.
Price: 79p. Discount: 60 per cent.
Comments: "A predominantly UK-based trust, due to be wound up in two years' time when investors should receive 160p per capital share if the trust continues growing according to plan. The trust has to grow by 5 per cent a year to meet its target. The only caveat is if the market falls substantially, but there's really very little growth required to provide tremendous returns."

Ian Millward, Chase de Vere Investments.
Trust: Henderson Income and Growth.
Price: 124p. Discount: 14 per cent.
Comments: "The ordinary shares yield 6.4 per cent income and stand at a discount of 14 per cent. The trust is due to be wound up in six years' time.

"Investors could expect to make a small profit on the basis of the discount alone at that point. It has a good steady fund manager, investing in blue chip companies and FTSE 100 stocks. It is has a relatively low-risk profile compared to some other investment trusts."

Martin Mullany, Brooks Macdonald Gayer.
Trust: Schroders UK Growth.
Price: 139p. Discount: 4.1 per cent.
Comments: "The shares are selling at an unusually wide discount for this fund. The trust is run along the same lines as the Schroders Enterprise unit trust, which concentrates on a small portfolio of about 30 to 40 shares.

"Both funds are managed by Jim Cox, who has a good long-term track record. He has produced a very steady performance and within the trust's trading range."

For free investment trust factsheets and other details, contact the Association of Investment Trust Companies on 0171-588 5347.

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Caroline Merrell discovers analysts at odds over the prospects for investment trust 'discounts'

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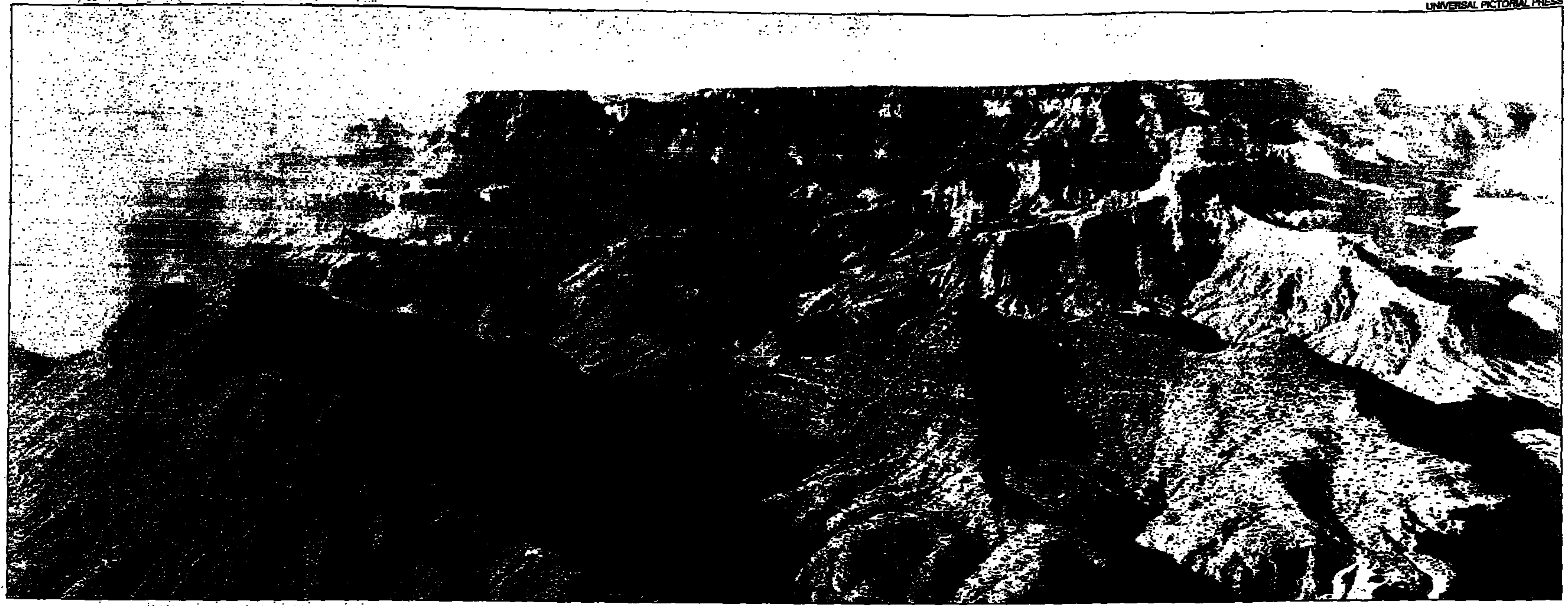

Investment trust discounts have not yet reached Grand Canyon proportions, but Credit Lyonnais says many trusts "seem to be staring over the precipice"

Dismay as chasm widens

The word discount may make shoppers' hearts beat a little faster. But for those with a stake in an investment trust, it can spell *dismay*. The *discount is the difference* between the share price of a trust and the value of its holdings, its net asset value (NAV). The average investment trust discount is now around 12 per cent.

As a result of widening discounts, holders of shares in many trusts have seen the share prices of their trusts fall, in spite of stock markets soaring to record highs.

Discounts are caused by a lack of demand for investment trust shares which have fallen out of fashion, *particularly among institutional investors.* Jeremy Tigue of Foreign & Colonial believes that the trend is cyclical. He points out that many trusts stood at a premium to their asset values as *recently as two years ago. He believes* that trusts will regain their popularity.

Others, including a number of investment trust analysts, are not so optimistic. They believe that discounts will continue to widen, especially if markets begin to edge downward.

John Korwin-Szymanowski, invest*ment trust analyst at Warburgs, is* among those predicting a further widening of discounts. He argues that discounts will narrow only if managers make a concerted effort to attract more investment into funds. There is a growing conviction that fund managers *should* take more responsibility for narrowing discounts by marketing trusts more aggressively.

Mr Korwin-Szymanowski said: "Many institutions are withdrawing from investment trusts entirely. Most of the large institutions are not new buyers of the funds." He pointed out that a couple of years ago several fund management groups, such as Mercury, Fidelity and M&G, launched a great number of new trusts, which contributed to the oversupply of shares in the market. He said that even if the *discounts did begin to narrow, many of* the institutions would take it as an opportunity to sell their holdings, which would lead to widening of the discounts again.

TRUST WATCH

Legal & General, the insurance company, holds some big stakes in investment trusts as well as offering its own fund. David Rough, a Legal & General director, said: "We did reduce our holdings about four years ago, when the discounts narrowed. We have gone back in to markets where we think there is good value. I hope that discounts are going to narrow again."

Legal & General also offers the Recovery investment trust, which has around £56 million under management and is aimed at both institutional and private shareholders. The trust now *stands at a 19 per cent discount* to its net asset value. Mr Rough denied that the company is planning *to convert the fund to a* unit trust. Unitising an investment trust in this way immediately cuts the discount and *allows shareholders to* sell their holdings to redeem their true value. He admitted that Legal & General was disappointed with the level of the *discount, but he added:* "We actually believe that it offers good value for investors. Over the last 12 months its share price has risen by 14 per cent, which is in line with the market."

Tom *Tuite-Dalton, Credit Lyonnais* investment trust analyst, said: "We said in March that the discounts would continue to widen. *We still believe this.*" Previously, at the bottom of the economic cycle after the 1987 crash, for example, discounts widened to more than 20 per cent. He claimed that the only hope for *investors* was for arbitrage companies to build up stakes in funds. They could then put pressure on boards to restructure the funds.

For instance, investors in the £500 million Fleming Far Eastern trust are being given the opportunity of moving *their holdings* into a unit trust or are being offered cash. The institutional shareholders, which include the Pru*dential, Standard Life and the Liverpool* Partnership, are believed to have put pressure on the board of the trust to restructure to combat the discount.

Mr Tuite-Dalton said that those *looking to buy into investment trusts* should choose funds where an arbitrage company has a stake. Credit Lyonnais said: "It is absurd, in our view many investment trusts seem to be staring *over the precipice, just waiting for* corporate pressure to be applied. Serious questions need to be asked about the longer-term viability of some trusts.

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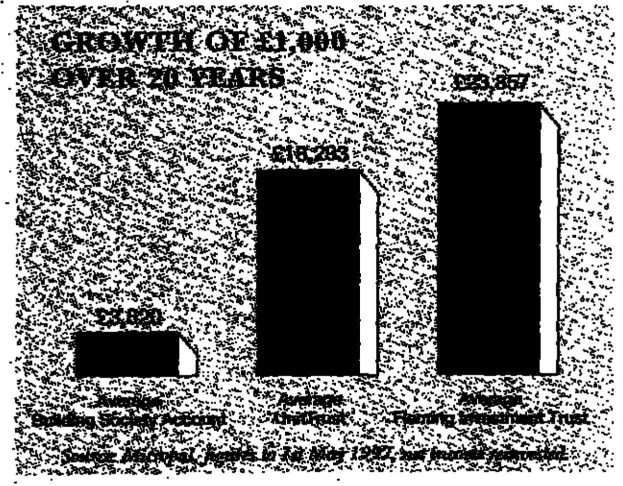

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Gavin Lumsden on trusts divided into a variety of share types

Tread very carefully when doing the splits

In the 1960s, the decade man reached the Moon, the rocket scientists of the financial world devised a new method of sending savings into orbit — the split-capital investment trust.

The idea was simple, split the capital structure of an investment trust into income and capital shares. All the dividends from the trust's investments would go to the income shareholders, giving them a much higher income than usual. The capital shareholders, meanwhile, would receive no dividends but would get all the trust's capital growth when it was wound up.

At the time, it seemed a brilliant solution to fulfil the two main requirements of investors simultaneously. Since then, however, split-caps have grown more complex as new share classes have been added.

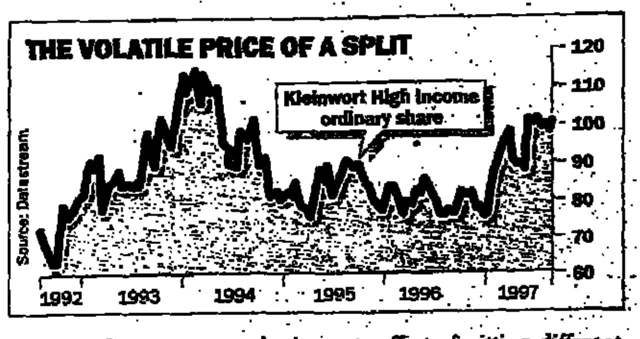
Zero dividend preference shares were introduced to cut the risk of capital shares. Holders of zeros are promised a predetermined redemption price, which has made them useful in financial planning.

A similar innovation was the stepped preference share, which offers a pre-set capital growth and rising income. At the other end of the risk spectrum, are income and residual capital shares, otherwise known as highly-geared ordinary shares, which aim to combine high income and capital growth.

This profusion of share classes can have the unfortunate effect of pitting different shareholders against each other, as in the case of Exmoor Dual, in which income shareholders discovered that they should have been receiving more dividends, but could not convince zero shareholders of the need to change the trust's articles of associations. These conflicting interests have frequently exacerbated a downturn in investment conditions.

Many of the current crop of split-caps were launched in the late 1980s and early 1990s after a long period of high interest rates and excellent stock market growth. Then, it seemed quite realistic to offer high income and good capital growth. However, when recession struck in the early 1990s, the stock market suffered and companies cut back on dividend payments. Suddenly, it was all that a split trust could do simply to pay its income shareholders. Capital growth vanished and the value of capital shares plummeted.

Market downturns hit splits harder than conventional trusts. This is because they are structured to intensify movements in the stock markets, a feature known as gearing. For instance, a £100 million trust split 50-50 between income and capital shares, might generate £5 million of income a year (ie, a yield of 5 per cent). All of this would go to the income shareholders effectively doubling the yield on their money to 10 per cent. Similarly, if the trust grows to £180 million, it will have achieved capital growth of 80 per cent, all of which will go to the capital shareholders, whose effective return on their money is 160 per cent. Unfortunately, this process can work the other way.

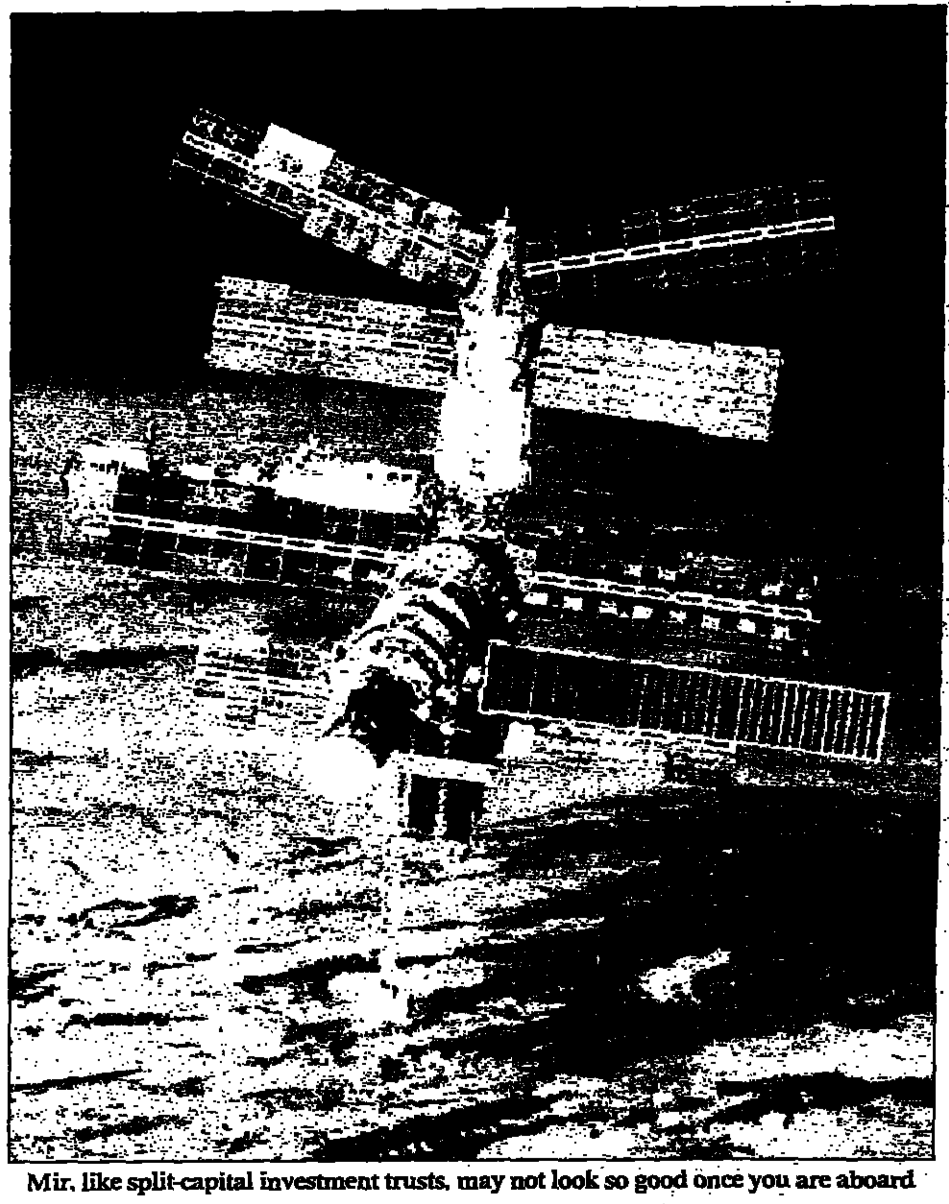


As a result, far from being a rocket-boosted ride up the equity markets, putting your money in split-caps can be like hitching a ride on the Russian Mir space station. What looks like an advanced vehicle turns out to be an accident-prone piece of junk that leaves you fearing for your money.

Many shareholders will have to weigh up this possibility in the next two years as nine split-caps reach the end of their fixed term and investors are asked whether they wish to roll over into a new trust or cash in their investment.

Fortunately, in spite of their volatility, most splits have managed to recover their performance in the past year. Kleinwort High Income, for instance, could suffer a 39 per cent fall in markets and still pay its zero holders the redemption price of 212.7p in June 1998. Its ordinary holders currently enjoy 13 per cent income and require just 3.6 per cent growth to get their capital back.

Splits' share prices will naturally improve as they approach wind-up and pay day. This represents a potential investment opportunity, although investors should realise that gearing can easily wreck this plan. Investing in splits always requires expert financial advice.



Mir, like split-capital investment trusts, may not look so good once you are aboard

Take long-term view with F&C

The enormous Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust is the world's biggest. This may be why Kenneth Clarke, a larger-than-life politician in every way, last week chose F&C as his first directorship since his return to the back benches.

The trust should also appeal to the former Chancellor's populist instincts. There are 130,000 shareholders, 50,000 of which invest through the company's £25-a-month minimum savings scheme.

At 57, Mr Clarke is almost exactly the same age as the average F&C investor, although many of William Hague's generation are now joining the share register.

But should investors, youthful or greying, follow the Member for Rushcliffe into the F&C fold? Only if they are prepared to stay loyal for the long term, in the hope that the recent improvement in F&C's fortunes can be sustained. In the six months to June, net assets rose 16 per cent to £2.053 billion. By contrast, in 1996, one of the least-inspiring periods in the trust's 129-year history, the share price slipped 7 per while net assets rose just 5 per cent.

The 1996 annual report notes that Foreign & Colonial departed from the FTSE 100 index of leading shares in June "for reasons beyond our control", as if the trust's failure to perform was someone else's responsibility.

F&C's suffering arose partly from the appreciation of sterling: some 26 per cent of the trust's holdings are in the US. The sickly state of the Japanese stock market (which accounts for another 10 per cent of the portfolio) also contributed to the underperformance.

At the start of 1997, the trust's managers decided to take advantage of the strength of sterling with a "gearing exercise", a frequent investment trust ploy. Jeremy Tigue, the F&C fund manager, explained that the trust took out short-term loans in German marks and French francs. "We converted this money into sterling. When we repaid the loans, sterling had appreciated further against both these currencies, which meant it cost us less to repay the money. The amount left over was pure profit for the trust."

Currently the trust is standing at a 13 per discount to net asset value. Mr Tigue believes that the improvement in performance should, in time, narrow the discount. But John Korwin-Szymanowski, investment trust analyst at Warburgs, argues that it takes a long time for good performance to translate into a narrowing of the discount and that "performance must be consistent".

ANNE ASHWORTH

Kenneth Clarke has joined the Foreign & Colonial fold

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Tel: 0141 353 0311 Fax: 0141 333 0668

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Imprisoned: but like Tim Robbins in *The Shawshank Redemption*, leaseholders with negligent managing agents can now plan their escape

Flat-owners to fight back

Sara McConnell on how leaseholders will benefit from the long-awaited arrival of valuation tribunals

Thousands of flat-owners on long leases are expected to act to rid themselves of incompetent or negligent managing agents from next month.

The Government has given the green light for leaseholders challenging bad management or unreasonable service charges to apply to a leasehold valuation tribunal (LVT) from September 1, instead of taking their complaints to the county court. The tribunals will charge a maximum fixed fee of £500 and will not be allowed to award costs.

Many flat-owners have not dared to take landlords or their agents to court for fear of incurring large costs. But evidence of poor management of blocks, shoddy repairs and intimidation forced the Government to strengthen the rights of leaseholders.

According to Lease, the advisory service for leaseholders, there is nothing to stop groups of residents in a block from forming themselves into a company and applying to the LVT to manage the block themselves. They will have to demonstrate that the managing agent, who could be the landlord himself, has breached his management obligations under the lease, failed to comply with recognised codes of conduct for managing agents, or has demanded or is likely to demand unreasonable service charges.

But solicitors warn leaseholders that being given the green light to take over management control of a block does not signal the end of leaseholders' problems. David Marcus of Franks Charlesly, a London firm of solicitors, says: "The nature of management is changing. It's not like running a social club: you are running a property company with significant assets and you may end up suing your neighbours."

When you take over the running of your block, you will still have leases and will be collectively responsible for making sure the block is repaired and insured in accordance with the terms of the lease. The freeholder will still own the freehold. Important issues will include:

■ **Forming a company.** This is the easiest way to manage your block collectively. You and your fellow leaseholders will be the only shareholders. You should take legal advice on setting up and structuring the company.

■ ***Buildings insurance.*** Are you properly insured or even over-insured? Can you find a better deal by going to another insurer? Insurers will consider you a commercial risk rather than a domestic risk.

■ **Sinking fund.** Your lease may insist that you set up a fund to spread the cost of major works when they occur. If you do this the money must be held in trust.

■ **Major works.** You have to comply with landlord and tenant legislation by getting at least three quotations, of which one must be independent of you and your freeholder.

■ **Ensuring everyone pays.** This is the trickiest bit. If someone refuses to pay, you will have to take them to the LVT and prove that the charges are reasonable. If they are and the leaseholder still refuses to pay, ultimately you can evict the leaseholder.

However, many leaseholders have neither the time nor the expertise to run their blocks properly and should seriously consider appointing a managing agent, especially if the block has more than seven flats. Peter Ward, of solicitors Trowers and Hamlins, says: "A managing agent is money well spent. If you do it yourself it's a recipe for argument. A managing agent can act as arbitrator."

The Association of Residential Managing Agents (Arma) has a list of members, who all have to carry professional indemnity insurance and stick to a code of conduct.

Lease can be contacted on 0171-493 3116.

HOW TO DEAL WITH DISPUTES

Q What will the tribunal be able to deal with?

A It will be able to decide whether existing service charges are reasonable and whether it is reasonable for you to have to pay an interim charge in advance. For the first time you will also be able to challenge proposed costs as well as *your existing bills.*

The tribunal will also handle applications from leaseholders trying to get their manager replaced (see above). If your lease says you have to insure your block with an insurer nominated by the landlord and you believe the premiums are unreasonable, you must argue your case at the tribunal.

Q But who decides what "reasonable" means? It's very vague.

A According to Lease, the tribunal will consider whether or not the works for which charges are disputed are necessary. It will also ask whether the original specification is adequate and whether the landlord got competitive tenders for the works.

Q Our landlord never replies to letters or phone calls and he will not give us the information we need to build our case. What can we do?

A He is not legally obliged to supply you with information, but you may be able to persuade the tribunal to get necessary information for you. Recognised tenants' associations can appoint a surveyor to examine the building.

Q What do I have to do if I want to apply?

A Forms will be available from Lease, but you must serve a notice on the landlord.

No short cuts to best car insurance deals

Owners of the new R-registration cars sold to date are finding that they face some of the highest insurance costs this decade. The AA says that the average premium has risen by £44.49 in the past year, indicating that the car insurance price war is over.

An investigation by *The Times* shows that the burden of uncompetitive insurance premiums can be heavy. Using the details of a 35-year-old owner of a new Ford Mondeo from North London, we discovered a gulf of more than £300 between the best and worst insurance quotes.

The most expensive quote we obtained was from Royal & Sun Alliance, which charged £641.32 for a year's comprehensive cover. For a driver with a five-year no-claims bonus who drove fewer than 8,000 miles a year for purely social purposes, this did not seem a good deal.

Looking elsewhere produced substantial savings. The next-worst quote was from Prudential at £560.25, while Hastings Direct offered cover at £448.20, almost £200 less than Royal & Sun Alliance's figure. The majority of quotes were between £400 and £500, although Direct Line quoted £395.20, and AA Insurance £390.

However, a small number of companies offered much better deals. Premium Search came up with a £297 annual premium, and Preferred Direct was cheapest of all at £277.07. Our driver would have saved £364.25 per year by choosing Preferred Direct rather than Royal & Sun Alliance.

The findings did not surprise James Wootton of Insurance Advice, the specialist insurance adviser which carries out twice-monthly surveys of premiums. He said: "A large number of companies selling car insurance are uncompetitive. Lots of drivers are paying far too much because they do not take the trouble to look around."

Rebecca Hadley of the AA agreed: "In this climate it is very important to shop around." She also advises motorists to seek out insurers who offer discounts for particular groups of customers, such as those who specialise in policies for people over 55.

NATHAN YATES

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£10,000+	7.5%

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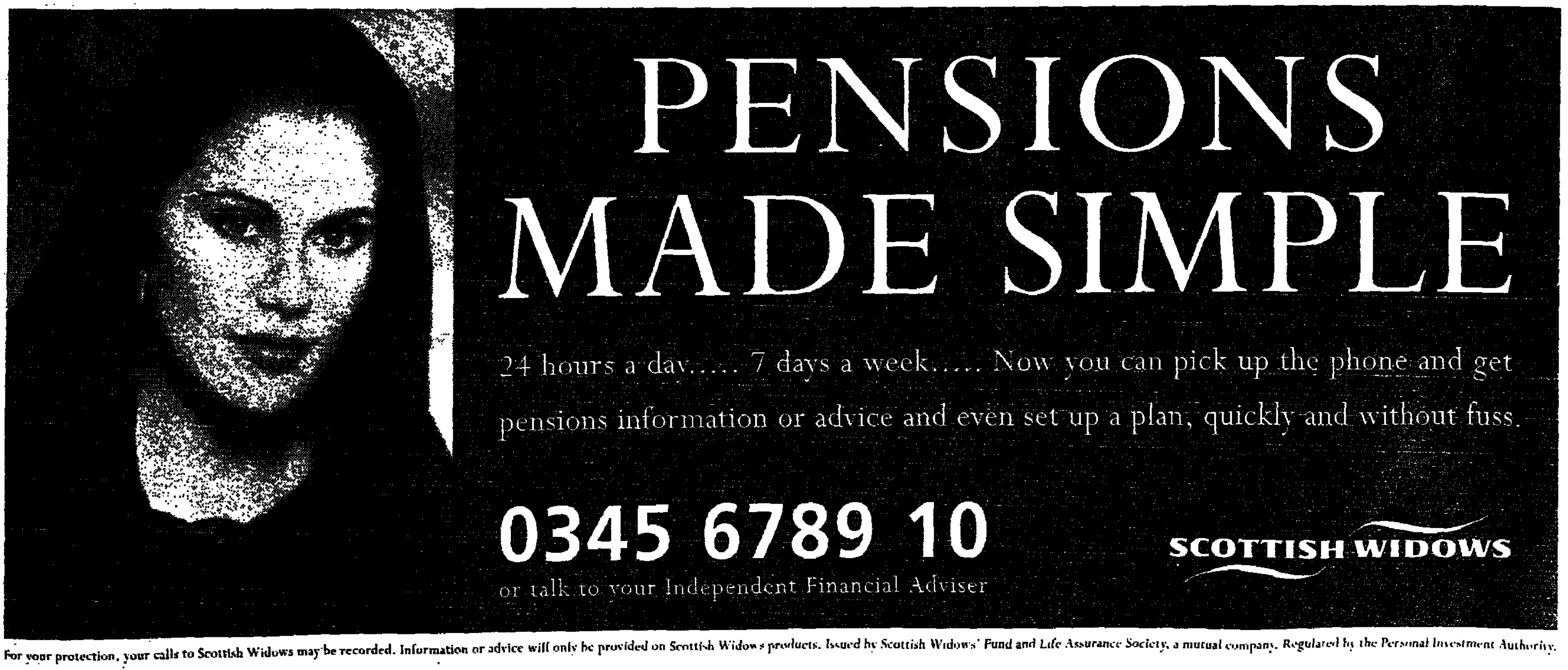

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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

National Savings launches helpline

National Savings has introduced a text-phone helpline to make it easier for those who are deaf or hard of hearing to obtain product information, interest rate details and valuations of Savings Certificates. Callers will not be charged for this service. Textphone: 08000 560585.

☐ For the mass of first-time private investors who need to know how to buy and sell shares in the simplest and cheapest way, *MoneyFacts'* low-cost share-dealing fax service provides full details of commission charges for execution-only services of some 30 banks, building societies and stockbrokers with notes on family dealing discounts. Calls are charged at 50p per minute. Fax: 0336 400245.

☐ Yorkshire Bank has launched a telephone banking service which will enable customers to order statements and chequebooks, check balances, review transactions and transfer funds. Registration for telephone banking is free for all existing and new customers. All calls will be charged at local rate and access to the service is free for the first ten calls made each month, with subsequent calls charged at 25p. Telephone 0345 365365 or contact your local branch for a registration pack.

☐ A volatile market increases financial risk for everyone, whether they are investing directly in equities and bonds or indirectly via unit trusts, investment trusts and Peps. A new book claims that in 24 hours you will become an expert in the art of evaluating and managing financial risk, and whether the market falls or rises you will continue to make money. *Understand Financial Risk in a Day* will be published on October 1, but is available to readers of *The Times* at a discounted price of £5 including postage and packing. Cheques should be made payable to TTL, PO Box 200, Harrogate, HG1 2YR.

☐ A gold credit card has been launched by American Express, created for "financially responsible individuals". The card offers an introductory rate of 12.6 per cent for the first six months, followed by 15.9 per cent APR, an interest-free period of 56 days and 90 days of purchase protection cover. For details, call 0800 700 717.

LIZANNE ROSE

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Clydesdale Bank 0800 445265	Savings	Instant	£25	6.50	Qly
C&G(rate from 1.9.97)0800 742437	Instant Transfer	Inst b	£1,000	7.00	Yly
Alliance & Leic BS 0845 6088860	First Cls Inst	Postal	£10,000	7.25	Yly
Abbey National 0800 174635	Bonus Postal	Postal	£50,000	7.33E	Qly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Scottish Widows Bank 0345 829829	60 Day Notice	60 day p	£500	6.50	Yly
First National BS 0800 558844	60 Day Notice	60 day p	£10,000	7.20	Yly
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Select 90	90 day p	£10,000	7.55	Yly
Scarborough BS 01723 500616	Scarborough 120	120 day	£5,000	7.50	Yly

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505		5 year	£3,000	7.60	Yly
Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650	Premier+feeder	5 year	£9,000	7.55	Yly
Midland Bank 0800 180180		5 year	£100	7.50	Yly
Melton Mowbray BS 01664 63937		5 year	£1,000	7.50	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Capital One Bank 0800 669000	Visa	0.64%N	7.90%N	Nil
RBS Advanta 0800 077770	Visa	0.79%N	9.90%N	Nil
Co-operative Bank 0800 109000	Advantage Visa	0.87%C	10.90%	Nil

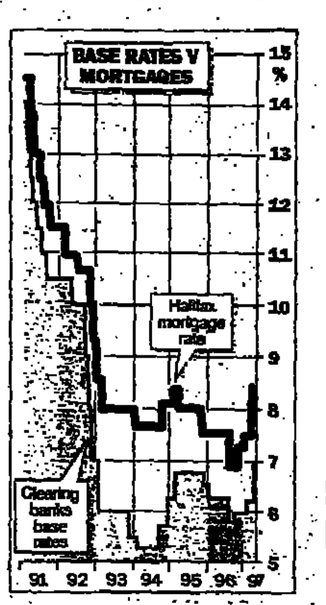
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

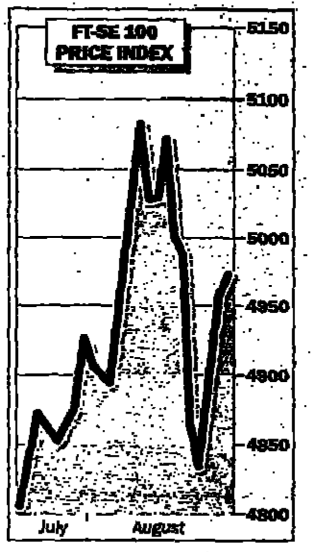
PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £5,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Direct Line 0181 680 9966	12.80%A	£183.75	£166.38
Hamilton Direct Bank 0800 303000	12.90%	£189.98	£166.65
Alliance & Leic Grp 0990 626262	13.30%	£187.73	£167.56

Nb. A = Minimum age 22 years Holders of comprehensive motor insurance policy or lender's existing customers, B = Withdrawals via Bank Clearing System, C = no interest free period, E = Rate includes bonus, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable). N = Introductory rate for a limited period, P = By Post only

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum investmnt £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c[1]	1.50	1.20	0.90	10-10,000**		0645 645000
Investment A/c*[s]	4.75	3.80	2.85	20-500**[2]	1mth	0645 645000
Income Bond*[s]	6.00	4.80	3.60	2,000-25,000**	3mth	0645 645000
First Opt Bond[s]	6.25	5.00	3.75	1,000-20,000**		0645 645000
44th Issue Cert†[s]	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 645000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					0645 645000
Capital Bond[s]	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 645000
11th Ind Linked†[s]	2.75			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Pensnrs Bond S3[s]	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000[s]	60day	0645 645000

*[1] first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free. inst accs for up to £100 [2] Unlimited additional hldgs for reinvested proceeds · †Tax free *Rates gross and vble xGuaranteed when held for 5 years [3]0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ [4]£100,000 jt in addition to S1 and S2 holdings [5]Taxable but cred in full [6]£500-100,000 earn higher rates. **Tiered rates apply*

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance.

SINGLE LIFE (level ann) Male:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Norwich Un ....Level	£ 9,468	£10,476	£11,816
Equitable Lf..........Level	£ 9,534	£10,462	£11,675
Sun Life ....Level	£ 9,207	£10,327	£11,840
Standard Lf...........Level	£ 9,224	£10,316	£11,732
Stalwart * ....Level	£ 9,250	£10,315	£11,443

SINGLE LIFE Female:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential ....Level	£8,865	£ 9,673	£10,860
Canada Life ....Level	£8,800	£ 9,614	£10,804
Generali ....Level	£8,624	£ 9,547	£10,816
Norwich Un ....Level	£8,750	£ 9,513	£10,664
Equitable Life ....Level	£8,595	£ 9,291	£10,260

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Norwich Un ....Level	£8,567	£9,097	£ 9,761
Canada Life ....Level	£8,370	£8,994	£ 9,878
Prudential ....Level	£8,386	£8,921	£ 9,743
Equitable Lf..........Level	£8,277	£8,813	£ 9,547
Allied Dunbar ....Level	£8,259	£8,803	£ 9,552

Source: Annuity Direct (0171 588 9393)

Statistics compiled by Lizanne Rose

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at August 21, 1997

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.00
	5,000	GE Fin Assur	6.20
	10,000	GE Fin Assur	6.80*
2 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.70
	10,000	Hambro Assured	6.50
	20,000	Hambro Assured	6.60
	50,000	Hambro Assured	6.70
3 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.80
	10,000	Hambro Assured	6.55
	20,000	Hambro Assured	6.70
	50,000	Hambro Assured	6.75
4 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.30
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.35
5 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.25
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.70

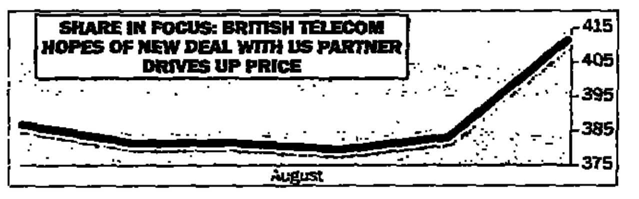
* Limited Edition
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222 Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	118.49	7.884	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	142.76	8.143	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	159.56	8.146	100.20	10,000
Britannia	13.000%	159.76	8.137	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	151.80	7.935	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	142.22	8.262	100.25	10,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	164.74	8.119	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	131.54	8.138	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	154.98	8.146	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	154.23	8.186	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	158.61	8.117	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (30/09-27/03)	9.04063%	119.00	100.00	1,000
First Nat(22/09-20/03)	9.12031%	105.00	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Chelsea 0800 291291	5.39	£20-150k	80	Fixed to 1.8.99
Northern Rock 0800 591500	5.24	to £250k	90	Fixed until 1.10.99
Bradford & Bingley 0800 570800	5.60	£15k+	85	2.10% discount for 2 years
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.05% disc-6 mth 3% disc-6 mths
Bristol & West 0800 555100	2.90	No max	90	Fixed to 1.9.98

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220	0.75	£25-150k	75	Fixed at 0.75% to 31.1.98
Leeds & Holbeck 0113 225 7777	0.99	to £160k	95	7% dsc-6 mths, 1% dsc-12 mths
Scarborough 0990 133149	1.20	£30-100k	95	6.99% dsc-6 mth 2%-6mth,0.5%-1y
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.61%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Abbey National 01908 343400	4.99	to £125k	75	4.99% until 31.10.99

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Newbury 01635 43676	4.85	£15-100k	95	3% discount for 1 year
Cheshire 0800 243278	5.84	£30-150k	95	2% discount for 2 years
Coventry 01203 555255	5.95	to £80k	95	2.25% discount for 1 year
Banks				
Bnk of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.05% disc 6 mths 3% disc 6 mths
Halifax plc 01422 333333	5.45	£25-250k	95	3% disc to 30.9.99 .5%overSVR-10.04

Larger lenders, loans and first-time buyers tables by Blay's Guides Ltd. (01753 880482)

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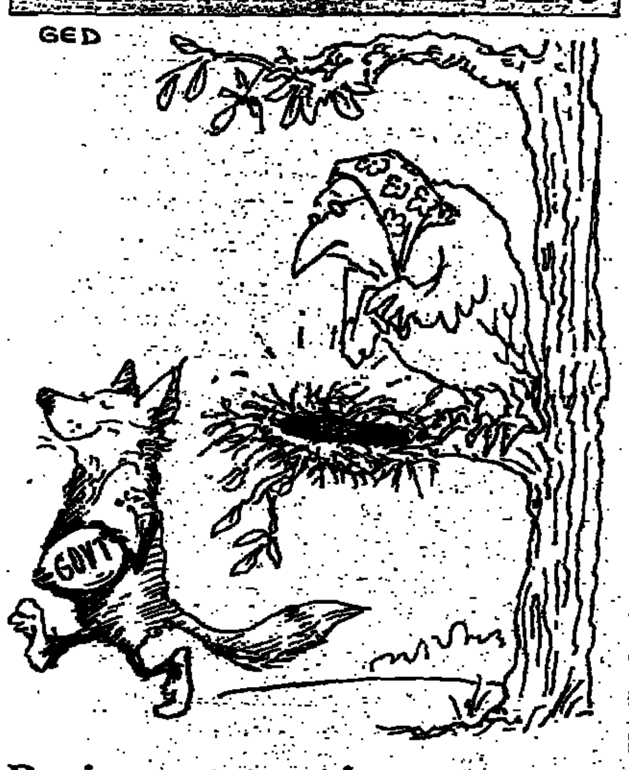

Review must not ignore means testing on pension supplements

From Mr C. Sharp

Sir, There is one very important fact affecting any new proposal to encourage occupational or personal pensions which all your commentators seem to have missed. It is that for the nine million or so people entitled only to the fixed flat-rate state pension, *most, if not nearly all*, are receiving means-tested supplementary allowances to bring them up to what the Government (of whatever hue) regards as the minimum poverty line, however that may be defined in law.

This means that if present practices are maintained (and given the tight limits on government spending this is more than likely) any relatively small additional occupational or other pension is likely to make little or no difference to the total income available to the pensioner, since the amount will only be wholly, or largely, deducted from the means-tested supplements as is the case at present.

If there is to be another serious review of the optimum relationship between state and non-state pensions this important factor must be clearly borne in mind and proper steps taken to ensure that the effect of additional pension provision (particularly if it is to be compulsory) will not be negated by the means-testing rules.

Yours faithfully,
CLIFFORD SHARP,
Wyke Hill House,
Gillingham, Dorset.

Horrified by 'monstrous intrusion'

From Mr R. Breckman

Sir, I have recently received an unsolicited circular from Cheltenham & Gloucester Mortgage Direct, offering me £7,500 if I move my mortgage to them.

Notwithstanding the fact that I do not have a mortgage, I have been glibly informed that "because I am a valued customer of Lloyds Bank and have several standing orders on my account" this is the reason why I have been placed on their mailing list.

This is a monstrous intrusion into my private affairs and a gross misuse of the confidentiality of my account by my bank which I thought was sacrosanct. Is nothing sacred in this era of hard sell by our financial institutions?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT BRECKMAN,
49 South Molton Street,
London, W1.

Winning bonds at a premium

From Mrs Y. Z. Newbury

Sir, Mr Braunton (Weekend Money, July 26) can consider himself lucky to own a premium bond which has come up with a win, however small, in both 1994 and 1997. My husband owned 40 bonds bought in or before 1972. He was apt to wonder why he kept them, but comforted himself that at least his name "was in the hat". One of them yielded £50 in June 1997. My husband died in January.

Yours faithfully,
YVONNE NEWBURY,
18 Northanger Court,
Grove Street, Bath.

Letters or information for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. Letters should include a daytime telephone number. *The Times* regrets it cannot always give individual replies or advice and asks that original documents are not sent in. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

Act fast to boost hopes of recovering antiques

All is not lost, but most people do too little, too late after being burgled, says **Clare Stewart**

Owners of heirlooms in Hampshire will sleep a little easier in the knowledge that a gang of 14 thieves has been convicted by Winchester Crown Court for stealing antiques worth £1 million. However, for those who are victims of a burglary, a fast response to the situation will greatly improve the chances of recovering your treasured possessions.

Most people who lose valuable antiques in a burglary do too little, too late and waste opportunities to retrieve stolen items. A delay in notifying insurers of losses could make the difference between getting back your antique candlesticks and them being melted down for scrap silver.

According to Nordstern Art Insurance, the specialist art insurers, 58 per cent of clients claiming compensation in the last year delayed submitting claims for between two weeks and more than a month. Only 13 per cent of clients notified the insurer on the day of the burglary.

Charles Hill, risk manager at Nordstern, says a delay of hours can make all the difference. "Co-operation between the private sector and the police continues to be increasingly effective. Given prompt warning, there is a chance of getting on the track of stolen goods. Delay helps the thieves."

There are specialist organisations that scour the country for stolen antiques

People who have been burgled will inform the police immediately but may fail to take further immmediate action, often because of the trauma of losing valuable items, particularly if they are family heirlooms. Many people postpone making a claim because they would prefer to have the items returned rather than receive compensation.

Delays in tracking stolen items also occur because of inadequate documentation. "We encourage people to take photographs of items and make as detailed a description as possible, including measurements, distinguishing features, such as cracks, and all maker's marks," says David Scully, underwriting manager at Nordstern.

Two sets of records are recommended, one each for the police and insurers. Good documentation may also mean lower premiums because it is one of the factors taken into consideration when calculating the cost of insurance cover.

Insurers and loss adjusters work closely with groups such the Art Loss Register, which compiles a text and visual database of stolen art and antiques. Jenny Gibson, an art historian at the Art Loss Register, said: "We search all the major auction house catalogues in the UK, US, Europe and the Far East to see if any items on our database are being offered for sale."

Another art-tracking service is offered by Trace Magazine, which carries information about stolen items and also enters details on its database and the Internet. Most of the UK insurance companies subscribe to the Art Loss Register and Trace, so individuals whose stolen goods are put on these databases do not have to pay.

Nordstern Art Insurance can be contacted on 0171-626 5001. The Art Loss Register: 0171-235 3393. Trace Magazine: 01983 826000.

THE WEEK IN MONEY

Skipton Building Society, Britain's ninth-biggest mutual, announced a 28 per cent increase in half-year profits to £18 million on Monday. The society obliged new customers opening accounts with less than £5,000 to make a donation of £25 to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, raising £150,000 in the last six months. Net lending was about £200 million, while net retail receipts were £80 million.

■ *Leeds & Holbeck* increased its interim profits 16.8 per cent to £9.8 million. The rise was on the back of an increase in mortgage lending to £202 million. A total of 45,000 new accounts were opened in the first half of the year.

■ Insurance companies involved in the pensions mis-selling scandal have been urged to speed up the reinstatement process by Alan Milburn, the Health Minister. National Health Service workers were highlighted as being the largest category of employees affected by the scandal. Of the estimated 30,000 NHS staff who gave up their employer's pension plan in favour of less beneficial personal pensions, only 200 staff have so far been reinstated. Earlier this month, Prudential said that it had doubled its provisions against pensions mis-selling to £450 million.

■ The pension fund surpluses of Britain's biggest companies are continuing to decline, according to a study by Bacon & Woodrow. The findings revealed that the average level of scheme funding has edged down to 113 per cent of ongoing liabilities from 115 per cent the previous year.

Pension contributions, measured as a proportion of total payroll costs, appear to have fallen again, with the average slipping from 5.7 per cent to 5 per cent. Actuaries claim that the Government's abolition of tax credits on dividend income announced in the Budget will cut 10 per cent to 15 per cent from pension scheme funding levels, potentially pushing the average scheme into deficit or close to it.

■ Figures from the Building Societies Association showed a record monthly inflow of cash from carpetbaggers and genuine savers. The remaining mutuals attracted £1.858 billion in July, compared with £1.844 billion in June.

A *small* ad for the savings account with BIG RETURNS.

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£50,000–£99,999	[illegible]
£100,000+	[illegible]

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OFFSHORE FUND PERFORMANCE TO 1ST AUGUST 1997	SINCE LAUNCH % CHANGE	SINCE LAUNCH POSITION IN SECTOR	5 YEARS % CHANGE	FUND RESEARCH RATINGS
International Growth	+732.7	3 out of 18	+115.8	AAA
Emerging Companies	+792.0	1 out of 28	+136.6	AAA
American Growth	+1366.9	1 out of 12	+148.9	AA
Far Eastern Growth	+444.6	1 out of 13	+146.3	AAA
Japanese Growth	+25.3	12 out of 73	+38.4	–
European Growth	+279.2	3 out of 5	+124.8	–
UK Growth	+399.8	1 out of 24	+137.8	AAA
Asian Smaller Markets	+118.4	9 out of 80	–	AA
Latin American Growth	+65.4	11 out of 25	–	–

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
For AIB see Govett (John)				
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	810.80	862.60	-2.30	2.21
General Inc	671.80	714.70	-1.90	2.21
UK Growth Acc	560.10	595.90	-1.40	2.13
UK Growth Inc	358.00	380.90	-1.00	2.13
Higher Inc Acc #	989.50	1052.70	+1.10	4.48
Higher Inc Inc #	519.10	552.30	+0.60	4.48
Gilt&Fxd Int Acc	220.00	234.50	-0.30	5.41
Gilt&Fxd Int Inc	94.80	100.10	-0.10	5.41
Nth America	433.70	461.40	+4.10	
Europe	440.40	468.60	-1.40	..
Brit Excell	111.70	118.90	-0.20	2.31
Brit Fndmtls Acc	136.00	144.70	-0.30	4.23
Brit Fndmtls Inc	89.71	95.44	+0.19	4.23
Global Opps	118.70	126.30	-0.30	
Balanced Acc	72.86	77.52	-0.24	2.03
Balanced Inc	67.35	71.65	-0.21	2.03
Japan Acc	43.77	46.57	-1.26	
Pac Basin Acc	408.70	434.80	-6.90	1.03
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	136.60	144.90	+0.10	6.34
High Inc Equity	213.80	228.70†	+0.70	4.24
Worldwide Bond	271.40	287.80†	-2.00	3.86
American Growth	526.40	562.10	+6.10	0.38
Asian Pacific	354.30	378.90	-1.30	0.36
Assets & Earnings	334.50	357.90	+2.00	2.81
Euro Capital Acc	241.20	258.00	-3.80	0.77
Extra Inc	43.45	46.26†	-0.20	6.50
General	306.50	326.10†	+2.10	2.82
Global Opps	85.09	90.52	+0.13	0.44
Japan	102.90	110.10	-1.50	
Managed Inc	51.79	55.10†	+0.07	4.08
Mastertrust	194.40	207.90	+0.20	1.07
US Emerging Cos	219.50	234.80	-6.70	
Ethical	87.85	93.46	+0.70	1.96
International	159.00	169.10	+0.70	0.51
Dividend & Growth	78.91	83.95†	+0.31	4.00
Global Grwth & Sec	77.69	83.01	+0.26	2.43
Latin America	100.10	106.50	-2.20	0.37
Capital Reserve	149.90	150.00		4.66
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
H&P UK Growth	108.20	115.10†	-0.40	2.04
Equity Income #	148.70	158.10†	-4.90	4.17
Extra Income #	283.80	301.90†	-8.30	5.82
Smaller Cos	106.10	112.80	+1.40	1.71
International	133.20	141.50	-0.30	1.31
ABERDEEN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
American	76.57	81.65	+0.41	
Emerging Ekns	81.60	84.99†	-2.57	0.03
European	173.68	180.60	-0.68	
Extra Income #	55.19	58.08	-0.42	4.89
Far East Emg Ecn	121.73	127.68†	-6.28	0.54
Fixed Interest #	26.68	27.74†	+0.20	8.45
Fund Inv Tst #	166.33	174.61†	-0.39	9.40
Japan	185.44	192.66†	-9.90	
Latin American	82.27	86.24†	-3.34	
Pacific	80.61	84.62	-3.79	0.22
Property	83.75	87.92†	+0.04	1.47
UK Emerging Cos	67.72	73.18†	-0.10	0.97
UK Growth	66.27	69.07	-0.61	1.20
Also Worldwide Port #	92.26	97.09	-1.36	2.37
Ethical	84.23	87.60	-0.22	1.04
Aberdeen Cat Inc #	50.69	50.69	+0.04	6.99
For Abtrust see Aberdeen				
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2403.00	2512.00	+17.00	
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
Resdl Property #	106.20	112.90		5.03
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	104.53	110.91	-0.05	1.88
Income Builder Inc	92.27	98.16	-0.22	3.58
For AIM Dollar see Threadneedle				
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cobold Ord Pens	135.30	140.50	-1.60	
Founder Pers Pens	80.38	83.51	-1.61	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	445.20	473.60	-3.10	
Bond	124.00	130.20†	+0.10	6.43
Brit Smlr Cos	112.40	119.60	+1.10	1.90
Conv & Gen #	66.46	70.70†		5.48
Europe	359.00	381.80	+1.50	
Euro Smlr Cos	133.30	142.00	+0.40	0.31
Income Grth	395.50	420.70	-0.60	4.02
Japan	337.50	357.70	-11.90	
Latin American	122.20	130.00	-3.80	0.49
Pacific	126.80	134.90	-2.70	0.53
UK Smlr Cos	61.58	65.51	-0.53	1.28
Japan Fd	615.30	633.60	-11.70	
Mngd Fd	239.00	253.90	-1.80	2.48
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Overs	452.60	478.70	+0.40	0.74
Capital Grth	157.90	167.00	-0.60	2.50
Wwide Opps	258.50	273.50	-1.10	0.80
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Grth & Inc Inc	511.00	543.70	+0.10	1.54
European Bd Inc	97.79	101.30†	+0.30	6.03
Exempt	101.30	107.60	-0.20	2.13
500	503.50	541.40†	-4.50	2.01
General	390.30	415.20	-0.20	1.66
Property	259.70	278.60	-0.30	5.49
Trustee	274.40	291.90	-0.70	1.62
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.80	100.80	-0.10	6.37
Cwlthlion #	125.80	126.50	+0.10	5.14
Extra Income #	165.10	176.10	-0.40	4.27
Gilt & Fxd Int	60.66	62.54†	-0.06	7.44
Income #	685.50	731.20†	+1.10	4.16
Income Builder #	72.05	73.12†	-2.07	4.81
Intl Income	85.30	90.75	-0.07	1.06
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	172.60	183.60†	+0.10	1.46
FTSE 100	127.00	134.80	-0.30	1.82
Leisure	184.50	196.80	+0.10	1.94
Recovery	604.10	644.40	+3.20	1.65
Smlr Cos Inc	58.50	62.40†	+0.39	2.25
Special Sits	499.90	531.80	-0.40	0.31
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	231.50	245.40	+1.20	0.11
F East Grth Acc	314.50	334.60	-5.20	0.30
Far East Grwth	196.30	198.30	-3.10	0.30
Euro Grth Inc	232.40	246.00†	-1.60	0.37
-do- Accum	254.30	269.10	-1.80	0.37
Japan	127.90	135.90	-2.20	
-do- Accum	129.30	137.40	-2.20	
Japan Spec Sits	60.41	63.99	-0.73	
[illegible]	228.60	242.70†	-0.66	0.59
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	178.10	187.90	+1.50	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Agents: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	67.65	71.78	-1.50	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Grth	97.83	104.14	-0.56	...
Dragon Growth	72.84	77.90	-1.77	0.43
Equity High Inc	108.86	115.19	+0.12	3.34
-do- Accum	161.25	170.83	+0.17	3.34
Extra Income Inc	27.84	29.30	+0.08	6.65
Extra Income Acc	31.94	33.62	+0.08	6.65
European Grth	80.68	85.68	+0.58	0.12
Evergreen	35.08	37.51	-0.28	
General Equity	126.07	133.06	-0.06	2.40
Japan Growth	43.86	46.66	-1.47	..
Pedigree Grth	74.91	79.26	+0.01	1.85
Ped Sm Cos Inc	40.09	42.42	+0.11	1.37
-do- Accum	42.93	45.43	+0.12	1.37
Retirement Inc #	32.35	34.41	-0.21	5.38
Special Sit	53.19	57.19	+0.30	2.79
UK & Overseas	71.50	75.66	-0.19	0.39
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	79.01	82.30†	-0.25	3.75
Capital	97.44	101.43†	-0.30	2.17
High Income	54.19	56.44†	-0.04	6.58
Top 50	68.93	71.80†	-0.48	2.24
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	215.61	224.62	+0.84	4.29
Long Gilt	47.07	49.01†	-0.11	5.84
Monthly Inc Plus	54.36	56.63	+0.13	7.91
Preference Share	51.60	53.76†	-1.53	7.25
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	158.87	165.51†	+0.34	5.41
Managed Fund	86.54	90.16	-0.61	2.51
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	51.80	53.96	+0.18	1.57
-do- Accum	61.95	64.54	+0.22	1.57
UK & General	117.28	122.18	-0.81	2.30
-do- Accum	155.47	161.96	-1.09	2.30
UK Growth	232.20	241.90	-1.60	1.62
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	259.74	270.59	+1.02	0.50
Far Eastern Grth	138.74	144.54	-2.13	0.20
Global Bond	74.80	77.92	+0.30	6.59
Japan Growth	110.24	114.85	-2.71	.
North Amer Grth	303.32	315.99	-1.96	
Oriental Growth	88.58	92.28	-1.08	0.53
Worldwide Growth	84.14	87.65	-0.58	0.30
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	93.13	93.13	+0.09	6.01
Homeradar Fund	103.15	109.75	-1.47	1.97
Quilter Fund	175.30	186.49†	-2.14	1.68
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	39.37	42.11†	-0.06	2.99
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	195.80	208.30	-0.30	1.86
Income	81.25	86.44†	-0.59	4.15
European	91.79	97.77	-0.33	0.18
Recovery	183.90	195.60	-1.50	2.20
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1183.80	1253.40		3.03
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
European Inc	84.22	89.42†	+0.19	0.35
Fellowship Tst	115.60	122.90	+0.60	1.11
Income #	323.30	343.90	-0.40	4.00
-do- Accum #	879.40	935.50	-1.00	4.00
Smaller Cos	228.40	242.90	+1.90	0.76
-do- Accum	285.30	303.50	+2.40	0.76
Gth Portfolio	112.00	119.10†	-0.40	1.33
High Inc Port #	94.66	100.70	-0.40	4.15
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 479 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1912.80	1934.50	-3.50	0.53
UK Small Cos	2234.50	2322.40	+25.90	2.96
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	240.70	258.10	+2.00	
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	206.30	219.40	-0.30	1.47
UK High Inc Inc	217.90	231.60	-0.20	3.08
-do- Accum	303.40	322.70	-0.30	3.08
UK Pref & F I Inc	62.27	66.13	+0.08	5.59
Environmtl Opps	122.30	130.00	-0.30	0.77
UK Smlr Cos	72.55	77.18†	-1.05	0.87
Extra Income Inc	53.23	56.55†	-0.14	6.06
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
Commodities #	24.27	25.79	-0.07	5.43
Enterprise	120.00	127.70	-0.10	1.97
Equity Income #	164.10	174.40	-0.20	3.67
European	75.08	79.91†	+0.46	
Financial	70.25	74.64	-0.46	1.34
Growth & Inc #	333.40	354.20†	+0.20	2.47
High Dist #	208.50	221.50		3.84
International	465.10	494.20†	-6.90	0.20
Int Cap Inc	125.30	133.30†	-0.40	2.02
Latin American	42.52	45.18†	-1.20	
Mgd Grwth Port	96.75	101.10	-1.60	4.95
Pacific	90.93	96.61	-0.35	
Pref High Inc	24.06	25.56†	-0.04	7.05
Tokyo	200.70	212.10	-5.10	
UK Smaller Cos	241.10	256.20	+1.30	1.17
Japan Sm Cos	333.40	352.90	+1.10	
Nth Amer	545.00	576.20†	+6.20	0.51
UK Inc & Gth	300.40	320.30	-0.80	2.31
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BPI Director Opps	124.10	132.35	-1.19	0.97
Growth Acc	331.50	353.16		0.18
Income	606.02	645.63†	-3.70	6.08
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	260.80	277.40	-3.50	0.95
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	110.94	116.78	+0.15	1.30
Ethical Tst	54.25	57.10	-0.37	0.70
Far Eastern	311.42	327.81†	-6.21	1.60
High Income	163.12	171.71	+0.70	4.33
UK Index Tracking	63.31	66.64†	-0.42	2.63
Intl Growth	158.15	166.47	-2.06	1.12
North American	187.41	197.27	-0.55	1.43
Pelican	173.13	182.24	+1.17	2.63
Smaller Cos	71.29	75.04	-0.18	2.44
Special Sits	93.62	98.55	-0.24	3.30
Tst of Inv Tsts	240.42	253.07†	-2.99	1.45
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	122.36	129.82	-0.03	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FP Pac Basin Acc	233.00	248.50	-6.40	
FP Income #	67.27	71.75	+0.47	4.42
-do- Accum #	244.10	260.30	-1.70	4.43
FP Jap Smllr Cos	234.40	250.00	-2.10	.
FP Monthly Dist #	83.09	88.62†	+0.32	4.79
FP Stag Deposit	100.70	100.70†	-0.10	5.28
FP Tokyo	79.66	84.97	-2.25	...
FP UK Focus	50.93	54.32		1.45
FP UK Growth	238.40	254.20†	-0.30	1.64
-do- Accum	490.80	523.50	-0.40	1.64
Stewardship Dist	465.70	496.70	1.60	1.47
-do- Accum	592.40	631.80	+1.90	1.47
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	77.29	82.44†		4.98
-do- Accum #	110.20	117.50		4.99
N Am Stshp Dist	165.90	176.70	+2.30	
-do- Accum	178.60	190.20	+2.50	.
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	119.90	120.50	-0.40	2.90
Inst Ethical Ac #	121.20	127.80	+0.40	2.90
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Grth Acc	144.00	155.10	-6.50	0.47
Open Cap Gth Acc	151.50	161.10	-1.90	
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	131.60	139.90†	-0.80	2.49
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	142.60	151.60	-0.90	2.49
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	136.50	145.20†	-0.70	3.54
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	149.30	158.40	-0.70	3.54
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	356.00	377.70	-0.40	1.52
Cash	49.36	50.10†	+0.03	4.55
Growth Portfolio	106.80	113.60	-0.50	
Income Portfolio	84.58	89.74†	+0.02	2.75
For GEM Dolphin see Premier Pft				
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	256.50	274.20	+6.90	0.12
European Gth	873.40	928.43	+3.50	0.51
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	60.22	63.70	+0.52	3.75
-do- Accum	69.15	73.15	+0.61	3.75
High Yield #	52.13	55.09†	-0.19	7.33
-do- Accum #	61.14	64.60	-0.17	7.33
Income Inc	223.30	238.70	-0.70	3.62
-do- Accum	259.30	277.30	-0.90	3.62
Intl Growth	430.30	456.50	-1.80	0.27
Intl Income	112.40	119.10	+0.70	1.99
Japan Growth	446.60	473.10	-10.20	
Orient Acc	237.50	254.10	+1.60	0.12
UK General Inc	219.00	234.00†	-0.40	1.69
UK General Acc	397.10	424.40	-0.70	1.69
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	63.57	67.93	-0.27	1.71
UK Spec Sits	117.00	125.20	-0.70	1.31
US Growth	241.70	255.50	-2.00	
Wwide Spec Sits	290.20	309.20	+10.10	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	68.42	73.20†	-0.62	1.93
Practical Inv Inc #	139.79	148.96	-1.68	3.23
-do- Accum #	338.52	362.05	-4.29	3.23
UK Index	217.45	218.54	-0.99	2.85
UK Smaller Cos	231.11	247.19	+1.64	0.44
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.64	26.57†	+0.06	6.52
High Income	39.56	42.79†	-0.71	3.96
UK Growth & Inc	184.41	197.05†	-0.51	2.34
Global Bond	28.16	29.19	+0.24	4.53
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	55.31	59.06	-0.45	
Global Managed	167.28	177.65	-0.70	1.04
Gold & Intl Res	105.70	113.05†	-0.04	
Global Utilities	172.66	184.34†	-0.51	0.62
Overseas Funds				
American	249.95	264.40	+1.05	0.02
European	166.05	176.32	+1.36	0.48
Euro Sel Opps	259.07	276.07†	+2.70	
Amer Emerging	201.72	214.53	-1.92	
Hong Kong	250.75	269.35	-1.90	0.70
Japan	211.52	224.34†	-4.41	
Pacific Growth	235.60	253.10	-1.64	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	297.12	297.12†	-0.66	1.59
Long Term Bal	315.77	315.77†	-0.54	2.61
Med Term Bal	254.82	254.82†	-0.03	2.75
UK Equity	360.77	360.77	-0.02	2.16
UK Emerging Cos	185.21	185.21	-1.97	2.17
American	422.48	422.48	-1.08	0.31
Japan	123.40	123.40	-2.01	
European	433.00	433.00	+2.53	0.62
Index Linked Gilt	196.60	196.60	+0.08	2.63
Fixed Interest	193.04	193.04†	-0.08	6.98
Amer Emerging	437.74	437.74	-0.56	
Pacific	223.73	223.73	-5.39	0.41
Emerging Mkts	155.40	155.40†	-2.34	0.64
Index Strat Japan	138.62	138.62†	-2.58	0.22
-do- Pacific Rim	206.22	206.22†	-4.21	1.10
-do- Cont Europe	234.19	234.19†	-0.26	1.14
Index Strat USA	253.45	253.45†	-0.46	1.59
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	139.39	147.22	-2.52	
Med Term Bal	122.08	123.37	-0.05	
Cash Trust	152.04	152.04†	+0.15	6.49
Long Term Bal	142.68	151.78	+1.80	
UK Equity	168.19	178.92	-0.04	
UK Emerging Cos	84.95	90.27	-1.79	
American	196.24	208.76	-0.54	
Japan	59.05	62.81	-1.03	
European	180.29	191.79	-1.15	
Fixed Interest	99.98	106.35	-0.05	
Index Linked Gilt	87.68	93.27	+0.04	
Deposit	91.87	97.73	-0.09	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BMW Intl	174.33	183.50	-1.02	6.46
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	763.35	812.07	-3.43	0.23
-do- Accum	866.49	921.72	-3.89	0.23
European Inc	209.13	222.35	+0.74	0.63
Amalgam Inc	186.48	198.32	-5.96	
N America Inc	498.12	529.91	-2.28	
Far East Inc	377.03	401.10	-13.96	0.35
-do- Accum	391.32	416.30	-14.39	0.35

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
High Income #	134.40	143.40†	-0.40	5.71
Active Funds-International				
American Grth	798.10	842.90	-5.00	
European Grth	191.90	204.10	+1.50	..
Japan Grth	270.50	287.50	-6.40	.
Japan Smllr Cos	26.64	28.43	-0.29	
Asian	63.36	67.62	-1.12	0.07
Sing & Malay Grth	74.97	80.01	+0.84	..
Hong Kong Grth	257.50	274.70	-2.78	0.12
Global Bond	21.27	22.41†	+0.10	4.68
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	202.30	203.30†	-0.90	2.83
Trust Index	135.50	138.10†	-1.90	2.50
THE FOOTSIE FUND	81.96	82.37	-0.33	2.40
Index Funds-International				
American Index	381.20	383.10	-0.70	0.70
Eurotrack 100	244.20	245.40	-0.10	0.95
Japan Index	87.60	87.94	-1.34	0.13
Tiger Index	166.70	170.80	-5.08	0.68
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	52.40	54.73†	+1.58	1.60
General Funds				
Managed Dist	101.30	105.80	-0.20	1.02
Managed	105.00	109.70	-0.30	1.02
Prefd Chsd Fnd	129.10	134.70	-0.70	1.46
UK Growth	83.63	87.34	-0.35	1.25
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	99.98	104.48†	-0.20	5.14
Gilt & Fixed Int #	28.00	28.91	+0.06	7.54
UK Inc & Grth	57.58	60.14	-0.19	2.58
UK Income #	439.50	460.00	-1.00	4.08
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	79.41	82.15	+0.73	.
Amer Smlr Cos	195.30	203.30	+2.80	.
-do- Accum	197.30	205.40	+2.70	...
Europe Gth	290.70	302.50†	-0.30	.
-do- Accum	301.10	313.30†	-0.30	.
Euro Smaller Cos	52.62	54.78	+0.61	..
French Growth	111.30	115.60	+0.80	0.03
-do- Accum	120.40	125.10	+0.80	0.03
H Kong & China	170.00	177.10	-0.10	0.18
Intl Growth	80.67	84.05	-0.82	0.37
-do- Accum	82.20	85.64	-0.84	0.37
Japan Gth	26.69	27.82	-0.69	..
-do- Accum	26.69	27.82	-0.69	
Japan Smaller Cos	27.82	29.04	-0.37	.
Glob Emrg Mkts	113.10	118.10†	-2.40	
-do- Accum	113.80	118.90†	-2.60	..
SE Asia	367.98	384.20	-5.38	.
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	49.81	51.33†	-0.63	6.38
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690446				
UK Income #	129.30	136.80	+0.10	2.98
UK Growth	133.70	141.50	-0.30	1.49
Nth 5 Europe	120.90	136.60	+0.80	1.76
Slater Grth	208.69	222.50	+0.80	0.80
New Japan	77.62	81.97	-0.28	..
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
Global Health	206.10	219.20†	-3.00	
Income #	253.31	269.47†	-0.63	3.85
UK Growth	94.71	100.75†	-0.57	1.84
Intl Growth	101.46	107.93†	-0.93	0.52
Ecology	110.32	117.36	-0.11	0.75
European	243.86	259.42†	+0.40	0.19
Far Eastern	341.67	363.47†	-9.06	.
UK Special Sits	61.95	66.07	+1.31	0.36
Fd of Inv Tsts	61.35	65.43	-0.89	0.52
High Income #	57.89	61.74	+0.27	4.54
Financial Opps	49.82	53.14	-0.30	.
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Fixed Income	105.60	109.10	+0.20	6.50
Equity Pnr Inc	122.50	130.30†	+0.10	2.75
-do- Accum	122.80	130.60†	+0.20	2.75
Gilt Yield	123.10	129.80	-1.10	6.23
Global Income	265.40	282.30†	+1.40	2.84
High Yield	191.00	203.20†	-0.40	4.59
-do- Accum	650.60	692.10†	-1.00	4.59
Money Market	100.94	100.94†	+0.09	6.51
Smlr Cos Div	64.75	68.88†	-0.44	3.76
Tomorrows Co Ex Acc	1112.00	1130.00	-1.00	3.40
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	194.50	206.90	+1.10	.
Asian Growth	312.80	332.80	-7.30	
-do- Accum	367.60	391.10	-8.60	
North American	128.70	147.50		.
European Special	155.20	165.10	-0.40	..
European	218.50	230.30	-0.10	0.56
-do- Accum	287.90	306.30	-0.18	0.56
Global Eqty Inc	139.50	148.20†	-1.10	1.54
Japan	372.50	396.30	-8.70	
Japanese Special	188.40	200.40	-4.70	.
Smaller Cos	155.40	165.30	+1.60	0.95
UK Equity Growth	60.89	64.78†	-0.23	1.10
UK Index Inc	402.90	404.90	-2.30	3.28
Sectoral Tst	118.70	127.50†	-3.30	1.57
-do- Accum	120.80	129.80†	-3.30	1.57
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 407 5966				
Endge Income	367.51	390.97	+5.79	4.22
Esk Growth	121.30	129.04	-4.42	1.16
Inc & Growth	81.12	86.30†	+0.06	3.46

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	149.50	149.50	-0.88	2.32
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	75.42	80.23	-0.43	3.05
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	99.10	105.20	+0.20	3.09
European	125.20	132.90	+1.10	0.34
Income #	98.27	104.30†	...	3.80
Nth American	125.80	133.50	+0.40	0.01
Far East	200.80	213.20	-4.00	0.15
Japan	65.23	69.25	-1.81	..
Emrging Mkts	108.80	114.20	-2.58	0.40

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Smaller Cos	100.75	107.19	-0.23	1.18
Eur Spec Sit Inc	61.35	65.28	-0.57	1.77
Eur Spec Sit Acc	64.33	68.43	+0.59	1.77
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Growth	168.70	170.60	-1.50	0.24
UK Growth	142.10	150.90	+0.20	2.50
UK Smll Co	64.07	68.02	+0.97	1.75
Asia Pacific	42.53	45.27	-0.91	0.45
Glob Grwth PEP	76.26	80.97	-0.11	0.56
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0181 837 7403				
Select Portfolio	117.40	124.90	-0.50	

هدية من الأصل

Modest progress on the week

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
498	407½ Allied Domecq	466½	...	5.8	14.0
628	410 Bulmer (HP)†	422½	...	4.3	11.8
75½	40½ Burn Stewart	43½	...	9.8	10.8
1040	885 Glenmorangie A	975	...	1.7	24.1
631	425½ Grand Met	589	-5½	3.2	18.8
627	424 Guinness	588½	-11	3.5	16.2
380	307½ Highland Dist	325	...	3.2	18.2
336	232 Matthew Clark	237	-½	12.7	7.1
102½	52½ Merrydown Wt	60	-½	6.5	14.8
2308½	1462½ SA Breweries	1843½	-34½	2.1	..

BANKS

1997 High	Low Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1521½	918½ ABN-AMRO	1500	+8½	2.1	21.3
971	716 Abbey Natl	829½	+2	4.2	15.8
655	532½ Alliance & Leic	628½	-4	3.3	14.6
553	380½ Allied Irish	524½	-6	3.5	14.9
488½	353½ Aus New Z	482½	-14½	4.1	...
4671½	2875 Bank America	4208½	-218½		
452	291½ Bank Scotland	416½	-3½	2.5	12.7
1482	978½ Barclays†	1405	-5½	3.0	13.4
764	512½ Bk of Ireland	715	-3½	2.8	15.8
8828½	5005½ Citicorp	8488½	-118½	...	...
1759½	1268½ Commerzbk	1662½	+3½	2.8	
862½	559½ Dai Ichi Kan Y	762½	-34½	0.6	..
4321½	2708½ Deutsche Bk	3890½	-106½	1.6	...
1300	758½ Espirito Santo	1268½	-15½	2.8	...
947½	604½ Fuji Bank Y	807½	-58	0.8	
2369½	1272½ HSBC†	2104½	-73½	2.7	17.3
2258½	1241 HSBC HK$	2037½	-68	2.8	16.5
783	701½ Halifax	719½	-1½	2.6	24.2
618	483½ Irish Perm	605	-4	2.7	..
785½	424 Lloyds TSB†	724½	-16	2.5	21.1
912½	665½ Nat Aust Bk	880½	-16½	4.7	11.9
808½	663½ Nat West†	782	-7	4.7	12.5
685	508 Ryl Bk Scot	583	+2½	4.1	12.8
1093½	681 Stand Chart†	1008	-38½	1.9	17.6
£164½	£104½ Wells Fargo	£164½	...	2.0	...
397½	315½ Westpac	373½	-11	4.1	...
373½	284 Woolwich	292½	-3	3.4	17.1

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997 High	Low Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
978½	717½ Bass	912½	-13	3.9	15.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

1997 High	Low Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
200½	162½ Car Group	178½	..	2.8	19.0
139½	117½ Countrybt	135	+½	3.5	7.8
100	65½ Charles Sidney	58½	..	5.7	10.4
58½	46½ Cook (DC)	47	...	6.6	..
121	90½ Dag Motors	95½	...	10.1	7.0
134½	102½ Dennison	102½		3.4	9.4
480	225 Diploma	225½		8.0	8.5
494	387½ Electrocomponents†	480½	-13½	2.1	26.5
228½	117½ Eurodis Elec	128	+6½	4.7	25.5
97½	76½ European Mot	81½	...	7.7	8.1
270	213 Evans Halshaw	260½	..	7.7	..
58½	38½ 5th Indust	42½		9.7	9.6
387½	312½ Finelist Grp	319½	...	2.8	16.2
34½	24½ Gardiner	25		4.8	9.1
79½	57½ Glendevon	68		2.9	11.1
110	82½ Gowrings	102½		3.7	23.3
16½	11 HR Owen	13½		6.1	12.2
103	20½ Hardlea	22½	...	...	2.1
287½	232½ Harris (Philip)†	240		5.2	9.3
330	284½ Hepilson	320		2.3	21.1
165	145 Holders Tech†	165		4.9	13.5
240½	154½ ISA Intl	155		2.4	12.0
309½	240½ Inchcape	283	-6	4.8	17.3
72	49½ Jacks (Wm)	64½	...	4.4	10.0
311	214½ Kwik-Fit	305½	...	2.3	21.9
454½	318½ Lex Service†	452½	-1	4.5	13.6
122	100 Lookers†	101	...	9.9	7.2
8	5½ Middlesex†	7½		1.7	12.7
41½	10½ Midsummer	16	...	3.8	3.3
472	180 Norbert†	236	-8	4.5	8.0
168½	114½ Northamber	122½	-½	1.4	7.3
352½	305½ Parco	347½	...	2.9	18.2
394½	254½ Pendragon	288½	...	4.8	11.7
229½	172½ Perry Gp	183	+2	6.4	7.9
751	448 Premier Farnell	520	-21	2.9	19.2
152½	122½ Quicks Group	123½	....	7.1	8.4
357	307½ REA†	345	..	1.4	42.6
2½	1½ Renco	1½	..	...	50.2
28	12½ Rostrum	17	..	1.8	
4	1½ Ross Gp	2½	...		
109½	78½ Sylard	89½		5.8	15.5
38	24 SEP Ind	37½		6.5	19.8
92½	30 Saltire	37½		4.6	
416½	280½ Time Products	287½		5.0	11.4
347	201½ Trust Motor Gp†	201½	-1	7.4	11.3
337	228 UMECO†	319	+1	2.2	28.7
85½	59 United Classic Gp	80		..	17.3
382½	257½ Vardy (Reg)	284		3.4	13.3
665	490½ WF Elect	610	-7	3.1	20.5
41	25½ Wilshaw	28	...	3.9	...
172½	111½ Wyle	147½	...	2.6	
155½	118½ Young (H)	154½		3.5	13.1

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ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

1997 High	Low Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
737½	585 Spirax-Sarco	702½		2.6	13.6
303½	239½ Sterling Indt	259½	+1	4.8	12.6
619	450 TI†	597	-½	2.9	18.8
120½	101½ Tinsley (E)	113½		7.0	10.3
120½	92½ Tomkins	104½	-1	2.8	14.8
205½	144½ Triplex Lloyd†	178½		4.9	13.5
222½	150½ Unicorn Intl	222½		3.5	
77½	48½ Utd Inds	62	+½	4.8	17.9
273½	160½ Vickers	209½	-½	4.3	12.5
10½	8½ Villiers Grp	9½			
712½	505 Vitec	601	-4	2.5	10.9
952	742 Vosper Thornyft	796	+9	4.1	12.8
350	213½ Wagon Ind	345	+6	6.2	10.5
287	203½ Weir	294½	-1½	3.6	13.7

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1997 High	Low Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
14½	3½ Jupiter Ex IncW	10½			
86	78½ Jupiter Gra Cap	86		11.5	10.4
39	31 Jupiter Grd Pfd	39			
139½	130½ Jupiter Intl Gro	132½		3.7	
388	293 Klnwt Chtl	369	-5½	2.0	55.0
118½	98½ Klnwt E Mkt	112½	-2½		
170½	153½ Klnwt End	168½	+1½	...	...
103	74 Klnwt H Inc	103	+½	13.5	
365	261 Klnwt O'seas	357½	-3	1.4	69.9
188½	161½ Klnwt Smlr	168½		2.7	44.5
387	264½ Korea—Euro	339½	-3½	0.4	...
173½	98½ Latin American	155½	-4		
1136½	902½ Law Debenture	1130½	-1½	3.1	33.9
119½	103½ Life Off Opp	119½		...	...

LEISURE & HOTELS

1997 High	Low Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
280	191½ Northern	251½		2.6	22.4
188½	117½ Posn Leisure†	171½		5.2	8.5
38	27½ Queensborough	29		1.3	11.0
18½	12½ Queens Moat	13½			8.8
458½	325½ Rank Grp	346	+½	6.3	21.1
53½	40½ Ryan Hotels	53½		4.1	11.2
1600	1375 Savoy Hotel 'A'	1425		1.5	
111½	39½ Sheffield United	59			
260½	184½ Sinclair (Wm)	234½		4.4	12.4
153½	47 Southampton	86		1.5	
110½	95½ Stakis	106	-2½	2.7	16.9
320	249½ Stanley Leisure†	289½		1.7	23.7
11	4½ Tandem	6½	-¼		
346	346 Tanjong	346		1.3	24.9
210	132 Thistle Hotels	144		3.2	14.1
14½	91 Tottenham Hot	96		1.0	16.5
115½	93½ Toy Options	104½	+½	4.4	7.8
290½	191½ VCI	191½		5.1	9.7
127½	94 Vardon	115½	-½	2.1	16.5
411	326½ Wembley	338		0.8	10.7
103½	69½ Zetters Gp	97		13.6	

MEDIA

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

Didn't realise you were on the board.

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Available to business users on contract hire for just £199 a month including maintenance.* Call 0800 466 466 for details.
*PLUS ADVANCE RENTAL EXCLUDES VAT 36 MONTH CONTRACT
HONDA
First man, then machine.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101½	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	100 †	-	8.75	7.35
105	101	Exch 15% 1997	101	-	14.81	6.72
103	101	Exch 9¾% 1998	101	-	9.65	7.00
101	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	100		7.24	7.12
110	104	Treas 14% 1998-01	104	-	13.35	7.13
114	108	Treas 15½% 1998	108	-	14.27	7.12
109	105	Exch 12% 1998	105	-	11.37	7.15
105	103	Treas 9½% 1999	103	-	9.22	7.17
111	107	Exch 12¼% 1999	107	-	11.40	7.17
108	105	Treas 10½% 1999	105	-	9.97	7.16
99	96	Treas 6% 1999	98	-	6.11	7.04
109	106	Conv 10¼% 1999	106	-	9.64	7.13
108	104	Conv 9% 2000	104 †	-	8.63	7.14
104	102	Treas 8% 2000	102	-	7.80	7.09
104	102	Treas 8½% 2000	102	-	8.26	7.17
119	114	Treas 13% 2000	114	-	11.32	7.17
112	98	Treas 10% 2001	108 xd	-	9.20	7.14
101	98	Treas 7% 2001	99	-	7.02	7.10

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101	97	Treas 7% 2002	99	-	7.01	7.04
122	109	Treas 9¾% 2002	110 xd	-	8.80	7.15
105	102	Treas 8% 2003	104	-	7.67	7.10
118	111	Treas 10% 2003	113	-	8.79	7.14
116	113	Treas 11½% 2001-04	113	-	10.14	7.17
87	82	Fund 3½% 1999-04	86	-	4.05	5.95
114	109	Conv 9½% 2004	113	-	8.40	7.14
99	94	Treas 6¾% 2004	98	-	6.88	7.08
109	104	Treas 8½% 2005	108	-	7.83	7.14
122	110	Conv 9½% 2005	113	-	8.36	7.16
129	124	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126	-	9.89	7.18
103	98	Treas 7½% 2006	102	-	7.31	7.13
107	99	Treas 7¾% 2006	103	-	7.45	7.16
104	100	Treas 8% 2002-06	103	-	7.76	7.24
120	115	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120	-	9.78	7.18
111	105	Treas 8½% 2007	109	-	7.76	7.16
102	96	Treas 7¼% 2007	101	-	7.16	7.10
116	108	Treas 9% 2008	114	-	7.87	7.13
108	101	Treas 8% 2009	107	-	7.47	7.13

LONGS (over 15 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
96	86	Treas 6¼% 2010	92	-	6.75	7.13
118	109	Conv 9% 2011	116	-	7.73	7.14
119	109	Treas 9% 2012	117 †	-	7.68	7.14
89	80	Treas 5½% 2008-12	87	-	6.30	6.83
110	100	Treas 8% 2013	108	-	7.37	7.13
107	98	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	105	-	7.35	7.15
111	101	Treas 8% 2015	109	-	7.29	7.07
120	103	Treas 8¾% 2017	117 †	-	7.43	7.10
113	101	Tr 8% 2021	111	-	7.18	7.03

UNDATED

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
50	43	War Ln 3½%	49	-	7.08	
35	30	Treas 2½%	34	-	7.13	
55	49	Consols 4%	54	-	7.31	

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
114	113	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	116			1.96
187	184	Treas IL 2½% 2001	187	-	2.89	3.59
184	180	Treas IL 2½% 2003	183	-	3.07	3.57
120	117	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	118	-	3.14	3.58
195	190	Treas IL 2% 2006	194		3.22	3.56
178	170	Treas IL 2½% 2009	175		3.24	3.50
183	176	Treas IL 2½% 2011	182 †	-	3.28	3.51
151	144	Treas IL 2½% 2013	150	-	3.31	3.51
151	153	Treas IL 2½% 2016	161	-	3.32	3.51
155	147	Treas IL 2½% 2020	154	-	3.38	3.53
129	122	Treas IL 2½% 2024	128	-	3.39	3.53
120	119	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	126		3.39	3.53

PHARMACEUTICALS

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

DEGREE COURSE VACANCIES 1997: SCIENCES

UPDATED degree vacancies in science appear today for students hoping to start at university or college.

The number of places available continues to reduce steadily as students claim the last "free" higher education courses before the Government's introduction of £1,000 course fees in 1998. No-one starting a degree this year will pay any tuition charges.

Fully updated degree vacancies are published in The Times in a three-day cycle throughout August, with arts and social sciences on Thursdays and Mondays, engineering and technology on Fridays and Tuesdays, and science on Saturdays and Wednesdays.

An asterisk shows courses are part of modular schemes, which are available in a variety of combinations. All other subjects are identified by the course code used in the Ucas handbook.

AGRICULTURE/ AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Aberdeen. CD12. D2N8. D242. D962. D2LC. D200. D220. D240
Aberystwyth. D270. D206. D201. D205. D2N1. D255. L130. D253
Bangor. D200
Bournemouth. D253
Central Lancashire. 002D. D204. *
Cheltenham & Gloucester Col. D2G5. D2F9. D2F6. D255
Cranfield. D9N1. D200
De Montfort. 033H. 19ND. D240
East London. C910
Harper Adams Col. D200. D270. D220. D240. D2N8. D201
Lampeter. VV1Q
Newcastle. D200. D244. D224. D202. D420. D253
Nottingham. D850. D200
Plymouth. D240. D208. D201. DF29. D2N8, D200
Queen's. D200. D800. 1130. I132
Reading. D820. D8TX. D8T2. L130. D200. D242. D2TX. D240. D2TY. D2TF. L130
Royal Agricultural Col. D800. *DN28. DN21. D240. DH21.* N802. N800. DN2C
Scottish Agricultural Col. DN28
Writtle. D201. D2Y1. D2N1
Wye Col. D200. D206. D255

ANALYTICAL SCIENCES

Greenwich. Y120

ANATOMY/ ANATOMICAL SCIENCE

Dundee. B120. B140
King's Col. BC17. C400. B150. B100. BB12
Queen's. B140

ANIMAL FARMING/ANIMAL SCIENCES

Aberdeen. D222
Anglia. CR1C. CR1F. CR1H. CR1K.*
Aston. D224
De Montfort. D221. D220. BD62
Leeds. D224 D220
Lincolnshire & Humberside. D220. D221
Nene Col. D2N8
Newcastle. C305
North East Surrey Col. D220. D228
Nottingham. D220
Nottingham Trent. D239
Plymouth. D220. D201. DF29. D2N8. D200. D224. 022D
Reading. D220. C305
West of England. D220. D254
Writtle Col. D234
Wye Col. D222. D220. D224. D2ND

AQUACULTURE

Middlesex. FN9CE
Oxford Brookes. *
Paisley. F920
Scottish Agricultural Col. C172
Stirling. C172

ARCHAEOLOGY/ ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE(S)

Bournemouth. F400. F040. FF49. FF49P
Bradford. V600. V603. V601. V602. F40C. F4CX
East Anglia. Y400
King Alfred's Uni Col. F400. FV41.*
Lampeter. V600. LV66. LV6P
Leicester. LV36
Liverpool. V602
Nene Col. V6Q4. V6V4. V6W2. V6R1. V6V1. V6N8. V6F1. V6F9. V6J9. V6F6. V6F8. V6H1. V6G4. V6FX
Newport. V600
Queen's. V600
Trinity Col. V600. VW62. *

BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE(S)/STUDIES

Abertay. L730
Brunel. B970
Nene Col. CL83
Suffolk Uni Col. LN7C*
Teesside. N154

BIOLOGY

Aberdeen. C162. C160. CC74
Abertay, Dundee. CF11. CG15. *
Aberystwyth. C100
Anglia. C120. C620. CR11. CR12. CR13. CR14. *
Aston. C112. CF11. CF19. CG11. CG15. CJ19. CJ1X. CL13. CL17. CN11. *
Bangor. D242. C100. C1C7. C170
Birmingham. C106. C101. C160. C260. C300. *
Bolton Inst. C100. D230
Brighton. CF11. CG15. CJ19. CF15. CG11. C120
Brunel. C110. C112. C111
Canterbury Christ Church Col. C160
Central Lancashire. C110. C710
Chester Uni Col. C111*
City. C100. C140. C621
Coventry. C110. *
De Montfort. C110. Y400. 011C. J500
Derby. C100. C101. *
Dundee. C100
East Anglia. F125. F126
East London. C108. C300. L602. LC51. CF14. CN11
Edge Hill Uni Col. C162
Essex. C100. C140. C174. C102
Exeter. C100. CF71
Glamorgan. C100. *
Grantham Col. C118
Greenwich. CM13. C1M3. C110. C1R1. C1R2. C1R4. C111. C160. C191
Halton Col. 001C
Heriot-Watt. C120. C170. C500. C700. C980
Hertfordshire. B1F1. B1F6. B1F9. B1M3. C1B1. 2B1C. 6C1C. C1B1. C1B2. C1C5. C1C6. C1J8. B1H7. B1T2. *
Huddersfield. C621
Hull. C100. C101. C1N7. C174. C175. *
Keele. CF1C*. C111*
Kent. C100. C101
King Alfred's Uni Col. *
King's Col. C1T9. *
Kingston. C111. CF11. CR11. CF18. CF17
Leeds. B150. B151. C100. C110
Leicester. CF71
Liverpool John Moores. C110
Luton. C100. *
Manchester Metropolitan. C100*
Middlesex. Y400. B150E
Napier. C120
Nene Col. B1F1. *
Newcastle. C100. C110. C306
Newman Col. CV18. CF18
North East Surrey Col. C110. C118
North London. C120. *
Northumbria. C100
Nottingham Trent. C110. C115
Oxford Brookes. C100. C140. B150
Paisley. C100. C1T2. *C1N1*
Plymouth. C100. C1F1
Queen's. C100. C620
Queen Mary Westfield Col. C100 *C1N1*.
Reading. C100
Roehampton Inst. WC11. CG17. CN11. CW14. CW1L. CX19. CQ1H. CQ13. CF19. CP13. CR11. CL16. BC91. CV11. CW13. CD12. CL14. CL13. CN19. CR14. CB16. CV18. CM19. CNC9. WC1C. GC7C. NC1C. WC4C. CWCL. WC9C. QCHC. QC3C. FC9C. CPC4. CRC1. LC8C. CBC9. VC1C. CWC3. CDC2. LC7C. LC4C. CLC3. CRC4. CBC6. CVC8. CM1X. C120
Royal Holloway Col. C100. C160. C140
Salford. FC11. GC51. CF18
Scarborough Uni Col. XC51
Sheffield Hallam. C120. XC71
Southampton. C100
South Bank. C110. C118. B150*
Staffordshire. CH16. CF16. CL18. CF13. CG15. B159*
Stirling. C100. *
St Mary's Uni Col. CF1X. FC81. CQ15
Stockport Col. C100
Strathclyde. C120. GC11
Suffolk Uni Col. CF19*
Sunderland. C110. B940. CL17
Sussex. C120. C100. C1R1. C1R2. C1R4. C1N1. C1Q4.
UWIC. 011C
West England. C110. CF11. CF19. CG15. X3C1. X4C1
Westminster. C110. C120. C128
Wolverhampton. C120. Y401. C620
Worcester Col. C120. XC51. *
Wye Col. C100

CHEMISTRY/ CHEMICAL SCIENCES

Aberdeen. F100. *
Abertay, Dundee. F110. F1T2. F140. F111. F126. FG15. FG11. H200
Anglia. F100. F101. FR11. FR12. FR13. FR14. *
Aston. F100. F110. FN11. FJ1X. FR11. FR12. FJ19. FG11. FL17. *
Bangor. F100. F104. F140. F141. F103*
Birmingham. F101. F102. F120. F140
Bradford. F100. F101. F1B2. F1N1. F1NC
Brighton. FG15. FJ19. FF13. FG14.
Brunel. F100. F1NC. F122
Central Lancashire. F110. F312. *F130. F100. 001F. F101. FH16*
City. F110
Coventry. F110. *
Derby. FF19. FF1X. F140. FF16
De Montfort. F110. Y400. F1N1. X7FC. 001F. *
Dundee. F100. F101. CF7C. F120. *
East Anglia. F100. F101. F102. F106. FF31
Exeter. F100. F103. F104. F162
Glasgow Caledonian. F1G5
Glamorgan. FC11. FJ11. FF16
Grantham Col. F108
Greenwich. F120. F121
Halton Col. F100. F106
Heriot-Watt. F100. F110. F114. F125. F1C7. F1G5. F1L1. F102. F1R1*
Hertfordshire. G1B1. F1F6. F1H7. B1M3. F1H7. F1L1. *
Huddersfield. F100. F180. F1C7. F1J8. F1H8. F1F9. F1N1. F120
Hull. F100. F101. F102. F130. F166. F184. F185. F1F9. F1H8. *
Keele. FQ18*
Kent. F100. F101. F102. F103. F105. F127. F128. F129. F1C1. F1CC. F1CD. F1F9. F1FX. F1FY. F1N1. *F1NC. F1ND. FF19. FN11. FN1C.* FN1D. FNCC. FNCD. FNDD
King's Col. FG1C. F1N1. F1NC. F1GM. F1ND. F1V5. FF13. FG11. F181. F1G5. FF1H. F105. F1CR. F1C7. F103. F115. F130. F131. F146. F152. F180. F100. F1C1
Kingston. F100. F110. F1N1. FR11. FF31
Lancaster. F100
Leeds. F100. F120. F180. F174. F176
Leicester. F103. *
Liverpool. F100. F102. F106. F1TF. *F1T2. F160. F1F7*
Liverpool John Moores. F100. F161
Loughborough. F100. F170. F180
London Uni Col (UCL). F100. F101. F1T2. F1N1
Manchester. F100. F101. F102. FF13. F170. F1B3. F1M3
Manchester Metropolitan. GFM1. F100. F101. F102. CF11. F110. *
Napier. F110
Newcastle. F100. F102. F101. FG14. FG11. FF13. F122. F126. F11F. F11G. F1T2. F111
North London. F100. F130. *
Nottingham Trent. F103. F110. F108. F100. F101. F104. F102. F105. FG11. FF13
Northumbria. F110. F118. F180. F1C7. F1B9. F1H8. F1F9. F170. F101
Oxford Brookes. *
Paisley. F100. F1T2. F1N1. F160. F120. F161
Plymouth. F180. F110. F140. F1F5
Queen's. F100. F102. FG15
Queen Mary Westfield Col. F100. F126. F140. F1C1. F1C7. F1N1. FF13. FG11. FR1F
Reading. F100. F103. FDJ4. F1NL. F1GM. F1LC. F1N4. F1G5. F1L1. F101. F104. F105
Robert Gordon. CF91. F110
Salford. F100. F110. *
St Andrews. F100. FF13. F101. F110. F130. F160. F111. F112. F1B2
Sheffield Hallam. F110. F140. F103. F126. XF71
Southampton. F100. *
Staffordshire. FC17. CF11. FJ13. FG15. F110. F100. F147. F148. BC17. F109. F101. F180. *
Stirling. F100. FX17
Stockport Col. F100
Strathclyde. F100. F100. F103
Sunderland. FB13
Surrey. F107. F100. F103. F101. F104. F106. F102. F188. F189
Sussex. *F100. F1R1. F1R2. F1R4.* F1N1. F1Q4. F1J4. F120
Teesside. F100. F1N1
UMIST. H800
Warwick. F100. F105. F140. F121. F125. FN11. F1C8
Westminster. F110. FF91. FG15. F140
Wolverhampton. F110. F180. F1J4. *

CHIROPODY

Brighton. B985
Glasgow Caledonian. B985
Nene Col. B985
New Col. Durham. B985
Plymouth. B985
UWIC. B985

CHIROPRACTIC

Glamorgan. B965

COGNITIVE SCIENCE/STUDIES

Essex. C8G5
Hertfordshire. C801
Middlesex. C878E
Westminster. C878

CONSERVATION

Bournemouth. F940. FF49
De Montfort. W160
Derby. D255
East Anglia. D260
Edge Hill Uni Col. C161
London Inst. J560. E560
South Bank. D260. D261
Stirling. D255
Writtle. D260

CONSUMER SCIENCE/STUDIES

Bradford & Ilkley Col. B900. L530
Glasgow Caledonian. N990
Liverpool John Moores. N950
Queen Margaret Col. N980
Manchester Metropolitan. N750. N964
Roehampton Inst. WN19. GN79. NN19. NW94. NWX4. NX99. CN19. QN39. NQ93. FN99. NP94. NR91. NL98. NB99. NV91. CNC9. NW93. DN29. LN49. LN39. NR94. NB96. NV98. NM99
Salford. N750
UWIC. N750

DECISION SCIENCES/SYSTEMS

North London. N240. *
Plymouth. G4ND
Portsmouth. G520
Wolverhampton. Y401

DENTISTRY

Manchester Metropolitan. B930
UWIC. 1398. B920

DISEASES (INFECTIOUS)

East London. C921

EARTH SCIENCES/STUDIES

Anglia. F920
Bournemouth. F930. FF49. OO9F. OO9FY. *
Brunel. F900
City. F640
Kingston. F640
Liverpool John Moores. F920
Nene Col. *
Plymouth. FF69
Portsmouth. F640
Wolverhampton. *

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE HOTLINE NUMBERS FOR CLEARING

Aberdeen Uni	01224 273 504
Abertay Uni	01382 308 080
Anglia Uni	01223 363 271
Aston Uni	0121 359 3611
Bangor Normal Col	01248 382 660
Barnsley Col	*01226 730 191*
Bath Col	01225 875 875
Birmingham Uni	0121 414 3344
B'ham Col of Food & Tourism	*0121 604 1040*
Bishop Grosseteste Col	01522 527 347x284
Blackburn Col	01254 292 929
Blackpool & Fylde Col	01253 352 352
Bolton Institute	01204 903 903
Bournemouth Uni	01202 524 111
Bradford Uni	01274 385 400
Bradford & Ilkley College	0800 833194
Bretton Hall	01924 832 017
Brighton Uni	01273 600 900
British Inst in Paris	0171 636 8000
Brunel Uni	01895 203 192
Buckingham Uni	01280 820 299
Buckinghamshire Col	0800 056 5660
Canterbury Christ Church Col	01227 767 700
Central England Uni	0121 331 6777
Central Lancashire Uni	01772 201 201
Central Sch Speech & Drama	0171 722 8183
Cheltenham & Gloucester Col	01242 532 825
Chester Col	01244 375 444
Chichester Inst	*01243 816 001*
City Uni	0171 477 8877
Colchester Inst	01206 718 000
Coventry Uni	01203 838 181
Cranfield Uni RMCS (Silsoe)	01525 863 315
Cranfield Uni RMCS (Shriv'ham)	01793 785 400
Croydon Col	0181 760 5801
Dartington Col	*01803 861 620*
De Montfort Uni	0645 454 647
Derby Uni	01332 621 300
Dundee Uni	01382 345 464
Durham Uni	01642 335 021
East Anglia Uni	01603 592 216
East European Studies School	0171 637 4934
East London Uni	0181 849 3443
Edge Hill Uni Col	01695 584 584
Essex Uni	01206 873 666
European Business School	0171 487 7507
Exeter Uni	01392 263 035
Glamorgan Uni	0800 716 925
Glasgow Uni	0141 330 4912
Glasgow Caledonian Uni	0141 331 3138
Goldsmiths Col, London	0171 919 7500
Grantham Col	01476 400 200
Greenwich Uni	0800 005 006
Grimsby Col	*0800 315 002*
Gyosei Int Col	0118 931 0152
Halton Col	0151 495 3315
Harper Adams Col	01952 815 000
Herefordshire Col	01432 352 235
Herefordshire Col	01432 352 235
Heriot-Watt Uni	0131 451 3376
Hertfordshire Uni	01707 284 848
Heythrop Col	0171 795 6600
Holburn Law Col	0171 385 3377
Huddersfield Uni	*01484 472 777*
Hull Uni	0870 122 244
Imperial Col, London	0171 589 5111
Keele Uni	01782 584 003
Kent Uni	01227 827 272
Kidderminster Col	01562 820 811
King Alfred's Winchester	01962 827 262
King's Col London	0171 836 5454
Kingston Uni	0181 547 7575
Lancaster Uni	01524 592 026
Leeds Uni	0113 233 3999
Leeds Trinity & All Saints	0113 283 7123
Leeds Met Uni	0113 283 3113
Leicester *Uni*	*0116 252 5281*
Lincolnshire & Humberside Uni	01482 463 950
Liverpool Uni	0151 794 6800
Liverpool Hope Uni Col	0151 291 3295
Liverpool Inst Performing Arts	0151 330 3232
Liverpool John Moores	0500 564 565
London Guildhall Uni	0171 320 1111
London Inst	0171 514 6000
Loughborough	01509 222 498
LSU Southampton	01703 216 200
Luton Uni	01582 728 554
Manchester Uni	0161 275 2077
Manchester Met Uni	0161 247 2966
Matthew Boulton Col	0121 446 4545
Middlesex Uni	0181 362 6565
Moray Inst	0990 100 809
Napier Uni	0131 455 4330
Nene Col	01604 735 500
Newcastle Col	0191 200 4110
Newcastle Uni	0345 887 722
New Col, Durham	0191 375 4210
Newman Col	0121 476 1181
North East Surrey Col	0181 394 3300
Northern Col	01224 238 595
North East Wales Inst	01978 290 666
North London Uni	0171 753 3355
Northumbria Uni	0191 227 4777
Norwich City Col	01603 773 344
Nottingham	*0115 951 5752*
Nottingham Trent Uni	0115 941 8418
Oxford Brookes Uni	01865 483 040
Paisley Uni	0990 403020
Peterborough Regional College	01733 673 66
Plymouth Uni	01752 233400
Portsmouth Uni	01705 876 543
Queen Margaret Col	*0131 317 3399*
Queen Mary & Westfield	0171 975 5511
Queen's Uni of Belfast	01232 273 079
Reading College	0118 967 5052
Reading Uni	0118 987 5123
Ripon & York St John	01904 616 980
Robert Gordon Uni	01224 262 105
Roehampton Inst	0181 392 3000
Rose Bruford Col	0181 308 2611
Royal Agricultural Col	01285 652 531
Royal Holloway, London	*01784 443 882*
Salford Uni	0161 295 5555
Salisbury Col	01722 323 711
Scarborough Uni Col	0800 216 124
Scottish Agricultural Col	01292 525 351
Scottish College of Textiles	0800 163 200
Sheffield Uni	0114 222 2000
Sheffield Hallam Uni	0114 272 0911
Southampton Inst	0800 847 800
Southampton Uni	01703 595959
South Bank Uni	0171 815 8158
St Andrews Col, Glasgow	01334 462 150
St Andrews Uni	01334 462 020
St Mark & St John Col	*01752 636 848*
St Marys Uni Col	0181 240 4225
Staffordshire Uni	0800 590 830
Stirling Uni	01786 466 166
Stockport Col	0161 958 3412
Strathclyde	0141 548 2813
Suffolk Col	01473 296 692
Sunderland Uni	0191 515 3000
Surrey Uni	0800 980 3200
Surrey Inst	01252 732 232
Sussex Uni	01273 678 416
Sutton Coldfield Col	0121 356 5671
Swansea Inst	0800 731 0884
Teesside Uni	01642 218 121
Thames Valley Uni	0181 579 5000
Trinity Col, Carmarthen	01267 676 733
Ulster Uni	01265 324 941
UMIST	0161 200 4499
Uni Col London (UCL)	0171 380 7365
Uni Col, St Martin	0800 731 7331
Uni Col, Warrington	01925 494 494
UWIC	01222 506 050
Warwick Uni	01203 533 544
West Herts Col	01923 812 565
Westhill Col	0121 415 2251
West of England Uni	0117 965 6261
Westminster Col, Oxford	01865 793 876
Westminster Uni	0171 911 5000
Wolverhampton Uni	*01902 323 232*
Worcester Col	01905 855 111
Wye Col, London	01233 812 401
Writtle Col	01245 420 705
York Uni	01904 433 020

UNIVERSITY OF WALES

Aberystwyth	01970 621 997
Bangor	01248 382 660
Newport	01633 430 088
Lampeter	01570 423 530
Swansea	01792 295 097

ECOLOGICAL SCIENCE/ ECOLOGY

Aberdeen. D230
Anglia. DR21. DR22. DR23. DR24. *
Bangor. D230
Bath Col. N750
Bournemouth. F930. FF49
City. CF99
Derby. HW72. EW72
Dundee. CD12
East London. C910. D235
Essex. D230. D238. C160. C161
Goldsmiths Col. E201
Greenwich. C911
Leeds. C900
Liverpool John Moores. C910
Luton. CF99. *
Middlesex. F940P
Nene Col. C9F1. C9F9. C9J9. C9F6. C9F8. C9B1. C9H1. C9G4. C9FX
Newcastle Uni. F9D2
North London. CF99. *
Northumbria. D250
Oxford Brookes. *
Plymouth. D230
Portsmouth. F612
Queen Mary Westfield Col. C910
Roehampton. CD92
Staffordshire. CG95. CL98. F610. F630. C919
Stirling. L120. C900
St Martin Uni Col. X900
Sussex. CD92
Westminster. C910
Wolverhampton. C910. *

ELECTRONICS/ ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS

Abertay. H680. HH5P
Anglia. H602
Aston. HN61. HC61. HF61. HG65. HR61. HR62. HJ69. HL64. HL63
Bolton Inst. H607. H603. H648. H640. H641. H628. H621. H610. H611. H618
Bournemouth. H600. H610. H618. H761. H768. HC61
Brighton. HH56. H630. HG56. H600. 626H
Central England. H528. H600. H6R2. H640. H6R1. H6RC. H625. H620. H648. H6RF. H6RG
Central Lancashire. H612
Derby. HH67
East Anglia. H609. H6N1
Glamorgan. H601. H602. H5H5. H6N1
Grantham Col. GH5P
Halton Col. *
Hertfordshire. H640. H648. H6F6. H6H7. W3T2. H6F3. *
Kingston. H600. H6GN. H6G5
Liverpool. GH66
Liverpool John Moores. H640. H648
Luton. H640. HG65. HNP5. HPPX. HN6P. GHM6. HW6M
Manchester Metropolitan. H600*
Middlesex. H601B. HN61B. H605B
North East Wales Inst. W2H5
North London. H600. *
Northumbria. H611. H615. H612. H635. H635
Nottingham Trent. GH56. GH5P
Oxford Brookes. H600
Royal Holloway Col. H600
Staffordshire. FH16. HJ97
UWIC. H601. 105H. H602. 116H
Wolverhampton. Y401

ENERGY SCIENCE/ STUDIES/SYSTEMS/ TECHNOLOGY

Anglia. K245. K246. K247
Brighton. J9N1. JF98. G219. JF95. JG94
Nene Col. *

ENTOMOLOGY

Newcastle. CD32

ENVIRONMENT/ ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE/STUDIES/ SYSTEMS/ TECHNOLOGY

Aberdeen. G830. CD59. F900. F920. F902. F832
Abertay. C9F9. F900. F910
Aberystwyth. C160. F910. F6N9. F900
Anglia. F912. BF29. C160. F901. *F912. F940. GMM3*
Aston. CF19. FF19. FJ9Y. FL94. FN91. FF19. FR91. FR92. FM91. FL94
Bangor. C160. F900. Y401
Bath Col. F900. C160. F910
Bolton Inst. F900. HF19
Bournemouth. F930. FF49
Bradford. F900. F902. FL9Y. HL98. KF49. KF4X
Brighton. F901
Canterbury Christ Church Col. FL93. FR91. FL95. FV91. FW93. FV98. FG94. FP97. *
Central England. K440. K443. K444. K445. F910
Central Lancashire. F905. 2D9F. F9D2. F910. F900. F930
Cheltenham & Gloucester. F9D2. F9L8. F9F6. F9PT
Chester Uni Col. F900. F9D2
Chichester Inst. LF89. *
City. FH92. H250. C160. F900. F610
Colchester Inst. F900
Coventry. F901. F900
Cranfield. F9N5
De Montfort. F110. X7F1. F900. *F910*
Derby. F900. *
Durham. F9H2. F900. F9H2. L1F9
Dundee. FLX1. FL98. FG91. FV91. FM91. K300. F900
East Anglia. D255
East London. F900. F911. FL46. *
Exeter. F900
Glamorgan. FL93
Glasgow Caledonian. F910. H200. F930
Glamorgan. F9B6. F9C1. F9F1. F9F6. F9J1. FJ9. F630. F900. BF69
Grantham Col. B908
Greenwich. *
Halton Col. 009F. *
Harper Adams Col. D260
Heriot-Watt. FK93. F630. F638
Hertfordshire. F638. F9F6. F9H7. F901*. F902. F903. F910. F918. F930. F9T2. F9H7. *
Huddersfield. F9N1. F910. FH91
Hull. C160
Keele. *FRX1. FFX6. FRX2. FVX1.* FVXC. FQX6. FGX1. FMX1. FLX3
King's Col. C1F9. F910
Kingston. F360. F900m F921
Lampeter F920. FV96
Leeds. F910. F904. F902
Leeds Metropolitan. B900
Lincolnshire & Humberside. F900. F901. DF4Y. DF4X. FN91. F908
Liverpool. K4L8. F900
Liverpool Hope Uni Col. FR91. FF98
Liverpool John Moores. F140. F900. F910
Loughborough. K240
Luton. BC91. *
Manchester. F630. F900. F901. F910
Manchester Metropolitan. B900. F910. F918. F900. F908. F901*
Middlesex. F9JJP. FNX1E. F908B. Y400. B900B. F900B
Napier. C160. F374
Nene Col. F910
Newcastle. D255. D224. F910
Newport. FT29. FL98. FG95. BF69. QV56. FV96. VT62. LV86. VV16. GV56. BV66
North East Surrey Col. F918. F919
North London. CF9X. *
Northumbria. F901. F900. F910
Norwich City Col. C160
Nottingham. F901
Nottingham Trent. *B900. B908.* FF19. FGXM. FGX1. FF39
Oxford Brookes. Y100. C160. F644
Paisley. C160. F900
Plymouth. F910
Portsmouth. FH92. F610
Queen's. C160
Queen Mary Westfield Col. F900
Reading. F140. F142. F925. F141. F630. F900. *D230. D253.* F920. C160. C165. C254
Ripon & York Col. F9L3. F9L8. F9N1. F9X9. KS2. KS3
Robert Gordon. F900
*Roehampton. F900**
Salford. F910. F9T2. F9T3. F900. K31N. C160
Scarborough. F300. F9Y1. F9Y2. F9Y3
Scottish Agricultural Col. KN38
Sheffield Hallam. F910. F900. F912. K421. D255
Southampton. F900
South Bank. DF49. FB91. FB94. FL9K. FL93. BF69
Staffordshire. F902. F901. CF19. MF39. MF3X. F931. F939. *
Stirling. FL91. FF19. C160. F9X9. F920. CF19. FG95. FG91
Strathclyde. K450. CH92
Sunderland. C160. C168. F900. F915. FH62. F930
Suffolk Uni Col. FN9C*
Surrey. C510
Sussex. F900. F9M9. F9R1. F9R2. F9R4. F9Q4
Swansea Inst. F910
Trinity Col. DF29
UWIC. F910. B900
West England. B900. F900. FG95. FF59
Westminster. FN91
Wolverhampton. F910. F900. K3F9. *
Worcester Col. F900
Writtle. F900. F901
Wye Col. F910. C160. F900

ERGONOMICS

Aston. JJX9. JLX4. JMX1. JRX1. JN19

EVOLUTION STUDIES

Liverpool. V6B1
Portsmouth. F615

FIRE ENGINEERING/ SCIENCE/STUDIES

Leeds. H860. H866. H865. H864
South Bank. H860

FISHERIES SCIENCE/STUDIES/ TECHNOLOGY

Plymouth. J602

FOOD SCIENCE/FOOD STUDIES/FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Bath Col. D450
Blackpool & The Fylde Col. D430
Bournemouth. D400
Chester Uni Col. BD44
Dundee. D400
Glasgow Caledonian. D420. B400
Glamorgan. D420
Huddersfield. DB44
King's Col. B400. B401
Leeds. D400
Lincolnshire & Humberside. D400. D421. D423. DN41. BD4K. DN4C. BD44. D408
Liverpool John Moores. N750. D420. BD94. D420. BD94
Manchester Metropolitan. BD44. D4N1. D421
North London. DN49. BD44
Northumbria. BD44
Nottingham. C560. D400
Oxford Brookes. *
Plymouth. D204. D402. D401. *C560*
Queen's. D400. D421
Queen Margaret Col. D4N5
Reading. D430. D470. D400. D450. D421
Roehampton Inst. WN19. GN79. NN19. NW94. NWX4. NX99. CN19. QN39. NQ93. FN99. NP94. NR91. NL98. NB99. NV91. CNC9. NW93. *DN29. LN49. LN39. NR94. NB96.* NV98. NM99
Scottish Agricultural Col. DD24
Sheffield Hallam. DN45. N750. D420. L535
South Bank. D400*
Teesside. D420. BD44
UWIC. D400
Wolverhampton. C560. *
Wye Col. D450

FORENSIC SCIENCE STUDIES

Glamorgan. F125. CF11. FM13. BF66. CF11

FORESTRY/FOREST SCIENCE

Aberdeen. D300. D310
Bangor. DD23. D300. D2L1. D253. D200
De Monfort. D300

GENETICS

Aberdeen. C400. C450
Aberystwyth. C400. CC47
Leeds. C400. C402
Queen's. C400
Queen Mary Westfield Col. C400. C4C5
Wolverhampton. C4C6

GEOCHEMISTRY

Anglia. F670
Greenwich. F670
Manchester. F670

GEOLOGY/ GEOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Aberdeen. F602
Aberystwyth. F600
Anglia. F600. F610. FR62. FR63. FR64. *
Brunel. FL68
Cheltenham & Gloucester Col. F6GN. F6G5. F6D2. F6F8
City. F600. FF68. F615
Derby. F600. F610. FF81
Exeter. F605
Glamorgan. F6C1. F6F1. F6F9. F6J1. FC61. *
Greenwich. F600. F601. F608
Keele. FR62*
Leeds. F906
Halton Col. *
Hertfordshire. F600. F6B1*. F6T2
Kingston. F600. F615. F6N1. FF63
Leicester. F600. F610
Liverpool. F600. F6F8
Luton. F600. *
Manchester. F600
Oxford Brookes. F610. F642
Plymouth. F610. F601
Portsmouth. F600. FF65
Queen's. F600
Queen Mary Westfield Col. F800. F830. F840
Royal Holloway Col. G600. FF65. FC61. FG61. F6F9
Staffordshire. FF16. FL68. F619. CF96. *
Sunderland. F611. F630. F638.

GEOSCIENCE

Aberdeen. F610
Lancaster. F640
Leicester. F640
Royal Holloway. F631. F601.

GEOTECHNICS

Oxford Brookes. *

HEALTH/HEALTH SCIENCES/HEALTH STUDIES

Aberdeen. B920
Anglia. L402
Aston. CJ19. JR91. JR92. JM91. JL94. JL97
Barnsley Col. L450
Bradford. G580. G581
Brunel. L4G5. L451. LN41. L450. L4M3. L531. L530
Canterbury Christ Church Col. B990. B900
Central England. BL94
Central Lancashire. LB49. L432. L452. L451. B990. LB49. 43LL
Chester Uni Col. L531
Chichester Inst. B990
City. B869
Coventry. B990
De Montfort. B991
Derby. G580.
Durham. B991
East London. B990. B9N1. B991. *
Grantham Col. N619
Greenwich. B992
Huddersfield. L530. B165
King's Col. Y156. B900. B950
Lincolnshire & Humberside. L450. LMK1. LMK3. LN41. LPK4. LM4C. CL8K. L451. LPK7
Liverpool John Moores. B991
Luton. LB49. L451. *
Manchester Metropolitan. Y420. L450
Middlesex. L450E. Y400
Napier. L450
North London. BL94. *
Northumbria. B991
Nottingham Trent. N610
Oxford Brookes. *
Plymouth. 035L
Queen Margaret Col. *B990*
Roehampton Inst. B900*
St Martin Uni Col. B900
Salford. B990. B250. BB69. LB59. LB49. LL54
South Bank. G15L*
Staffordshire. L450
Sunderland. BL94
Thames Valley. L4N1. Y702. B705. *L450. B990. LT45. B703.* *
Trinity Col. B900
West of England. L530
Westminster. B255
Wolverhampton. *
Worcester Col. L450. *

HORTICULTURE/ HORTICULTURAL SCIENCE/ HORTICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY

Aberystwyth. C200
Central Lancashire. D253. D251. 052D
De Monfort. D254
Glasgow. C200. C201
Greenwich. D250
Middlesex. W299B
Nottingham. D250. D240
Reading. D962. D250. D251. D2TG. D255. D2T9
Scottish Agricultural College. D250. D2N9
Strathclyde. D250. D2N9
Worcester Col. D250
Writtle. D250. DN21. D251. K300. *D260. D255. D257*
Wye Col. D250. D2NC

HUMAN SCIENCES/HUMAN STUDIES

Bradford. Y402
Derby. C900
Durham. L600
Hertfordshire. N600
Huddersfield. F901
Luton. BP17. *
Northumbria. N130
Norwich City Col. C980. C9L7. CL97
Plymouth. C9FC
Roehampton Inst. Y200
Sussex. Y400

HYDROGRAPHY

Plymouth. F870

IMMUNOLOGY

East London. C920
Strathclyde. CC59. CB92

MAPPING SCIENCES

Luton. F860. *
Newcastle. H260. F862

MATERIALS SCIENCE/STUDIES/ TECHNOLOGY

Leeds. J500
Liverpool. F200. J200. J500. HJ35
Loughborough. J500. J5N1
Manchester. F200. F201
Queen Mary Westfield. J550
Surrey. J524. J525
UMIST. F201. F200. J2HC. J2HD. *
Wolverhampton. *

MATHEMATICS/ MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES/ MATHEMATICAL STUDIES

Aberdeen. G102. G100.
Abertay, Dundee. G1G5. G1N1
Aberystwyth. G100. G102. GN14. G1X9. G120
Anglia. BG51. FG31. CG81. GG15. *
Aston. GN11. FG11. GG15. GR11. CG15. GR11. CG19. GL14. *
Bangor. G100. G1H6. G1N3
Birmingham. G141. *
Bolton Inst. G100
Brighton. G170. G100. GN12. GF13. GG14. G101
Brunel. RG11. RG21. G100. G1N1. *G1G5*. GN11*
Canterbury Christ Church Col. *
Central Lancashire. G140. G100
Chester Uni Col. *
Chichester Inst. G101. *
Coventry. G100. G140. *
De Montfort. G100. Y400. G1G4
Derby. GG15. G110. GT12. G900
Dundee. G110. G100. *
East Anglia. G100. *
East London. GG15. G900. *
Edge Hill Uni Col. G118. GG15. X7G1. X7GC
Essex. G100. GG15. GN13. *
Glamorgan. G101. BG61. G108. G1B6. G1G4. G1T4. *
Glasgow Caledonian. G1NC. G1TX. G1TN. GN13
Goldsmiths. G140. G147. GG15. GG14
Greenwich. G148. G140. GG15
Halton Col. *
Heriot-Watt. G100*
Hertfordshire. G100. G1T2. G1N2. G1F3. *
Huddersfield. G140
Hull. GV17. GV1R. G101. M120. *
Keele. GW13. BG11. GV17. FG31. GR18. GRC8. GL13. GW11
Kent. G100. *G101. G108.* G147. G1N1. G1NC. GG14. G1C1. GV17
King's Col. G1V5. FG3C. GX11. GN11. GG15. G103. G100. FG3D. FG1C. FG11. RG11. GG1N
Kingston. G100. FG31. GG41. G1N1. G1NC
Leeds. G100. H3G1. G150
Leeds Metropolitan. XG61
Leicester. G100. *
Liverpool. G100. G101. G140. G400
Liverpool John Moores. G920
London Guildhall. Y400. G1N1
Loughborough G100. GG15. G1L1. J920. G1X9. G1N1
Luton. G140. *
Manchester. G100. G101. G103. GV17. FG3C. G1N1
Manchester Metropolitan. G110. *
Middlesex. G140E. Y400. G108B. G1N1H.
Nene Col. *
Napier. G140. G1G5. G1N3. G1H1
Newcastle. GG15. GG45. G141. FG31. GH12
North London. G116. G140. GN11. GX19. Y100. G100. O31G. GN1C. GV17. C500
Northumbria. G100. G101. G1N1. G1NC
Nottingham Trent. G1G5. G1GM. G100. FG31
Oxford Brookes. G140
Paisley. GG15. G150. G1T2. G1N3. G1N1
Plymouth. X3G1. X6G1. X3G1. X6G1
Portsmouth. *
Queen's. G100. G176. GF13. G130. GG14
Queen Mary Westfield Col. FG31. G100. G103. G110. G120. G140. G1FM. G1G4. G1N1. GF15. GG15. GG41. GG51. GL11. GL41. GR11. GR1F. GR1K. GRD8
Reading. G113. G152. G100. G103. GG1K. GL11. GF13. GG14. G1G5. G123
Robert Gordon. G1X7
Royal Holloway Col. GW13. G100. G1G4. G1LC. G1N1. G1N2. GF13. GN11
St Martin Uni Col. GW1C. X7G1
Salford. G100. *G101. G102.*
Scarborough. XG51
Sheffield Hallam. G100. F341. G1B9. G1M9. GJ19. XG71. XG7C
Southampton. G100. *
St Mark & St John. X7G1
Stirling. G100. *
Strathclyde. G100. GG15. GF13. G1T9. GN44. G1L1. GN43. GN11. G1X7
Sussex. G140. G100. GG51. GG15. GL11. G406. G4G5. G4L1. G4N1. G1G5. G1F9. G1N1. G1F3. G103*
Teesside. G100
Trinity Col. XG51
UMIST. G100. *
West of England. G900. X3G1. *X4G1. XG71. X7G1*
Westhill Col. GL17
Westminster. G100
Wolverhampton. GN12. *

MEDICAL SCIENCES/STUDIES

Anglia. F120
Aston. CF1C. F120. FG15. FN1C. FR1C. FJ17. MF1C. LF41
Brunel. C131. C132. C130. GN1D. C721. C722
Central Lancashire. B940
Coventry. B8H6
De Montfort. GG54. GC64. B940. FB19. B9N1. X7B9. X7BX. GC64
East London. C720. C601. J820
Hertfordshire. BH9Q. BH9P. *
Greenwich. F120
Kingston. F120. F121
London Uni Col (UCL). F126
Loughborough. *F126*
Nottingham. BJ95
Nottingham Trent. F120
UWIC. B985

METALLURGY/ METALLURGICAL SCIENCE/ENGINEERING

Birmingham. J126
Brunel. J200. J205
Leeds. J200
Manchester. J200. J201
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UMIST. J200

MICROBIOLOGY/ MICROBIAL SCIENCES/ TECHNOLOGY

Aberdeen. C500. CC54. CC50
Aberystwyth. C500. CC35. CC57
Anglia. C500
City. C510
Dundee. C500
East London. C500
Heriot-Watt. C500
Hertfordshire. C1C5.
Huddersfield. C500
Kent C500. C501. *C502. C520. C580*
King's Col. CC57
Leeds. C500. C530
Liverpool John Moores. C510
Napier. CJ58
North East Surrey Col. C500. C508
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Paisley. CC75. CC95
Plymouth. C510
Portsmouth. C500. C502
Queen's. C500. C510
Reading. C500
Staffordshire. CG55. C510. CC75
South Bank. C500. *
Sunderland. C510
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West England. C510
Westminster. CJ58
Wolverhampton. C501. *

MIDWIFERY

Central Lancashire. B710
De Montfort. B710
Greenwich. B799. B710
Halton Col. *
Luton. B711. B710
Northumbria. B710
Oxford Brookes. B710
Thames Valley. B715
West England. B710

MINERAL SCIENCE/ STUDIES/ MINERALOGY

Glamorgan. J1B6. J1C1. J1F1. J1F6. J1F9. JB16. J140. J153

MOLECULAR SCIENCES

Dundee. C420. C620
Hull. C140
Kent. C620. *C621. C623*
Leeds. FF31
Liverpool John Moores. C620
Queen Mary Westfield Col. C620
Reading. C620
Southampton. C140
Stirling. CC16
Surrey. C620
Sussex. C4R1. C4R2. C4R4. F101. F102

NATURAL RESOURCES

Greenwich. FD82
Roehampton Inst. D268*

NATURAL SCIENCES

De Montfort. Y160. Y161
Greenwich. FD8F
Manchester Metropolitan. Y420
Matthew Boulton Col. CB11

NEUROSCIENCES

Aberdeen. B170
Central Lancashire. B172
Keele. BF1H. BG14
Sussex. B172

NURSING/NURSING STUDIES

Abertay. B700
Anglia. B700
Brighton. B700. B740
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Central England. B700
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De Montfort. B702. B701. B700
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Greenwich. B720. B730. B765. B703. B760
Halton Col. *
Hertfordshire. B700. BL75
Leeds Metropolitan. B701
Liverpool John Moores. B700
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Manchester. B700
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Northumbria. B700. B701. B740. B701. B740
Oxford Brookes. B702
Robert Gordon. B700
Salford. B701
Sheffield Hallam. B701. B702. B703
South Bank. B700. B701
St Martin Uni Col. B700
Suffolk Uni Col. B700
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Thames Valley. B700
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NUTRITION/APPLIED NUTRITION

Greenwich. B400. B411
Leeds Metropolitan. B411
Newcastle. B4D4
Nottingham. B400. C770
Oxford Brookes. BD44. B400
Queen Margaret Col. B401
Robert Gordon. B400. B401
Southampton. B400
South Bank. B400. BM41. BH47. BC48. BJ49. BP47
Surrey. B400. B401. BD44

OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE

Leeds Metropolitan. BN96
South Bank. BNX6. BN9Q. BNY6. BNXQ

OCEANOGRAPHY/ OCEAN SCIENCE

Bangor. F646. F700. FG71
Liverpool. F7F1

OPERATIONAL RESEARCH

Derby. B970
Hertfordshire. N2F6. N2H7. N2T2. N1N2. *
Greenwich. N220. NT29
Lancaster. N200

OPTICS

Anglia. B500. BN5C
Essex. H635
Liverpool John Moores. F380

OSTEOPATHY

British Col of Naturopathy & Osteopathy. B110
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PARAMEDICAL STUDIES

De Montfort. B301

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Aberdeen. B200
Bradford. B301. B2N1
Brighton. FB31
City. F126. BB23. B200
Coventry. F126
Dundee. B200. BB21
East London. B200. 011C. Glasgow. B200. B201
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Heriot-Watt. F125. F126. H8F1
Hertfordshire. B302
King's Col. BC27. BB12
Kingston. BB23. BB2H
Liverpool. B200
Luton. BM23. BL27
North East Surrey Col. B200. B208
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Sunderland. B200. B300

PHYSICAL SCIENCE(S)

Central Lancashire. FH36
Cheltenham & Gloucester Col. F8G5. F8D9. F8FX. FXF6
King's Col. *
London Uni Col (UCL). Y100
North London. FX39. FV37
Paisley. F340
St Martin Uni Col. X7Y1
Sussex. F315

PHYSICS/PHYSICS STUDIES

Aberdeen. F300. *
Aberystwyth. F300. *
Anglia. FR34. CF83. FG3M
Brighton. F3N1
Brunel. F302. F345. F3GM. F3N1
Central Lancashire. F311. F312. F520. F521. F303. FF35. FF53
City. F300. F303. F310. F313
De Montfort. Y400. F3N1. X7F3
Dundee. F300. *
East Anglia. FF31. F335. F336
Essex. F300. F301. F366. F351. *F310. F320. F323*
Exeter. F300. F301. F303. F320. F323. F349. F340. F369. F371
Glasgow Caledonian. F371. F340
Grantham Col. F318
Heriot-Watt. F300. *F301*. F314. F367. F350. F3X9. F368. F3F9
Hertfordshire. F3F6. F3H7. F3T2. F3H7. F9XT
Hull. F300. F302. *
Keele. FL33. FW31
Kent. F301
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Leicester. F300. *
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Reading. F300. F340. F341. F369. FW33. F3F5. F305. F304. F3G5. F301. F320
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Aberdeen. B100
Central Lancashire. BB12
Dundee. B100
East London. B100
Greenwich. BB14
Huddersfield. B960
Newcastle. B100
North East Surrey Col. B150. B158
Nottingham Trent. BB12
Portsmouth. C800
Queen's. B100
Reading. BC17
Salford. BC17
Southampton. B100
Staffordshire. BG15. BH16. BL17
Sunderland. B110
West of England. BB12
Westminster. B100

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Brunel. B960
Greenwich. BB19

PLANT SCIENCE(S)

Aberdeen. C200. C250. C260. D960. CDFX
Bangor. C200
Dundee. C200
Liverpool. C200
Luton. CL27
Newcastle. C260
Nottingham Trent. CF29
Plymouth. C200
Queen's. C260. D825
Reading. C200. CC23
St Andrews Col. D220. *CC12*
Scottish Agricultural Col. D220.
West England. C210
Wolverhampton. C2DF. *
Wye Col. C200

POLYMER SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY

Coventry. J400
Manchester. J2B9. J2BX
Napier. J400
North London. O44J. Y100
Queen Mary Westfield. J400
UMIST. J444. J443

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Anglia. CL83. CL84. CM89. CG8M
Aston. L700. L701. LL73
Bolton Inst. C801. C840
Bournemouth. C878. C879.
Bradford. L700
Bradford & Ilkley Col. LL83. LT85. LY83
Buckingham. C8N1. C8G5. C8Q3. C8R1. C8R4
Buckinghamshire Col. L700. LM73. L300
Canterbury Christ Church *Col*. PL77. *
Central Lancashire. C800
City. C800. BC98. CL81. CV87. LC38. C8M9
Coventry. C800. *
De Montfort. L703. L400. Y400. LL17. LM71. LL37
Derby. C820
Dundee. C800. LG74. LG75
East London. C800. CC18. CF84. BC98. L741. *
Essex. C800. C802
Glamorgan. BL67. LL37. LV78. *LW71. LW74. L700. LM79*
Glasgow Caledonian. L700
Greenwich. C800. C813. CL83
Halton Col. *
Hertfordshire. C800. C801. *
King Alfred's Uni Col. *
Kingston. LR74
Lincolnshire & Humberside. CL84. CP87
Liverpool John Moores. CC18. BC98. CV87. CL83
London Guildhall. C830
Luton. *
Middlesex. C800E
North London. L710. LX79. LN71. LV77. Y301. LM79. Y100
Northumbria. C800. C8C5
Norwich City Col. L7C7. L7L3. L7C9
Paisley. CC81. CF81
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GOLF: JOHANSSON EQUALS COURSE RECORD TO TAKE LEAD IN EUROPEAN OPEN

Montgomerie eyes merit award

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN DUBLIN

RUSSELL BOYCE

Olazabal's struggle to find form was evident during a disappointing round of 73 at the K Club yesterday

COLIN MONTGOMERIE had another solidly professional round in the Smurfit European Open at the K Club yesterday, a 69 this time. He made it seem ho-hum. He made four birdies and took three putts once — just another day at the office, really. No matter that his body clock is out of sync after he made a helter-skelter dash here from Colorado on Monday and tiredness, like darkness in northern Europe, keeps stealing up on him quickly.

The worries of his bad driving at the Open and US PGA championships seem to have shrivelled in the less competitive atmosphere of a European Tour event. Montgomerie worked out why he has been hooking the ball recently when he was halfway through the made-for-television match against Phil Mickelson in the United States.

He moved the ball back in his stance. In most right-handers that would promote a draw, but in Montgomerie's case it promotes a fade. "Typical of me to be different," he said, smiling. This slight change made, Montgomerie surged past Mickelson and, from being four strokes behind, he finished three strokes ahead. The form he showed on the inward holes against the left-hander has stayed with him and, after 36 holes here, Montgomerie is 11 under par.

The K Club is not itself this year. Though it has a monstrous yardage of 7,179, this is not the course that it could and, perhaps, should be, and the players have toyed with it as a result. At tea-time, more than one third of the field of 156 were under par. Montgomerie set a course record in the first round; Per-Ulrik Johansson, of Sweden, equalled it in the second to take a one-shot lead over the Scotsman at the halfway mark.

José Maria Olazábal claims that he does not know whether he will be selected by Severiano Ballesteros, the Europe Ryder Cup team captain, if he fails to qualify automaticaly and, meanwhile, is struggling for a semblance of form. He shot a 73 yesterday for a two-under-par total of 142 and, according to Sergio Gomez, his manager, Olazábal is "without sparkle. He does not believe in himself."

Olazábal said that when he is on the driving range he hits the ball well, but that on the course he cannot score. "I am putting badly," he said. "That is not helping. But it is not the greens because Costantino Rocca [with whom Olazábal played] putted beautifully." Rocca's round of 68 left him three strokes behind Johansson.

Montgomerie's considerable success in Europe could have created a dilemma for himself. He could probably win the European order of merit for a fifth time if he puts his mind to it. At present he lies fourth, less than £60,000 behind Ian Woosnam and Bernhard Langer, and £46,000 behind Darren Clarke. He will certainly overtake Langer, who missed the cut here, and Clarke, who is competing in the World Series in Ohio, and he will probably overtake Woosnam, whose two rounds of 71 mean that he is nine strokes behind Montgomerie.

The difficulty is that to go for a record fifth win in the order of merit requires Montgomerie to play his heart out for the rest of the season in Europe. He has already played for the past two weeks; he intends to compete every week for the next eight. And in the middle of this run comes the Ryder Cup. The worry for Europe supporters is that, at Valderrama, Montgomerie will resemble Laura Davies at the Solheim Cup last year — present, but too tired to be at her best.

IN BRIEF

Sorenstam sweeps into lead

ANNIKA SORENSTAM turned on the style for a partisan Swedish gallery yesterday by battling over a windswept Osterakers course in Stockholm to a second-round 67 in the Compaq Open.

It left Sorenstam, a four-time winner on the LPGA Tour this year, at ten under par on 134, three strokes clear of Nancy Lopez. Alison Nicholas, the US Open champion, is the leading British player in a chasing group on 143.

EQUESTRIANISM: Clayton Fredericks, of Australia, took the lead in the Bowmore International three-day event at Blair Castle after the 86-strong field had completed their dressage tests yesterday.

Fredericks, riding Balrenny, was able to hold off the challenge of his compatriot, Matt Ryan, the Olympic gold medal-winner in 1992, on the Austrian-bred mare, Virkon Eliza.

BOWLS: England strengthened their grip at the top of the table by beating Scotland 28-15 in the third round of the pairs event at the Atlantic Rim women's championships in Llandrindod Wells yesterday.

Kathleen Hawes and Mary Price opened up a 19-9 lead after 13 ends before dropping a five and a single to allow Janice Maxwell and Sarah Gourlay to close to 19-15. But the England pair picked up nine shots over the last six ends.

GOLF: Jenny Clink and her son, Tim, won a one-sided final of the Burhill Family Foursomes. The Lilley Brook pair were too strong for Linda Sechiari and her son, Simon, and finished the match on the 12th, winning 7 and 6.

TENNIS: Miles Maclagan gained one of the best wins of his career when he beat Jean-Philippe Fleurian, the France Davis Cup player, 6-2, 7-6 in the first round of the US Open qualifying competition yesterday. Danny Sapsford was beaten 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 by Mark Nielsen, of New Zealand.

Britain's No 1 woman, Sam Smith, from Essex, and Lorna Woodroffe, the No 3, from Surrey, both won their matches.

SWIMMING

Palmer wilts in the heat of a battle too far

FROM CRAIG LORD IN SEVILLE

MOURNFUL clouds threatened thunder and spilled rain on the San Pablo pool here yesterday, as if to grieve for what might have been for Paul Palmer and Great Britain in the 400 metres freestyle at the European championships.

In hothouse conditions, the title that Palmer, a 22-year-old from Lincoln, had been chasing, after winning silver medals at the two previous European championships and at the Olympic Games last year, went instead to Emiliano Brembilla, 18, an Italian, who clocked the third fastest time in history and the best so far this year, 3min 45.96sec.

That was also a championship record by a margin of 1.82sec, and 1.01sec inside the time in which Danyon Loader won the Olympic titles for New Zealand ahead of Palmer last year. "It was a magnificent swim, the kind of time I'd aimed to do here. But it just wasn't there today," Palmer said.

The Briton would have had to break his own national record by some 2.18sec to match Brembilla, and by 0.03sec to equal the 3:48.11sec of Massimiliano Rosolino, who was second to Palmer in the 200 metres freestyle on Tuesday and made swimming history for Italy yesterday; it was the first time that Italian swimmers had finished first and second at the European championships.

Britain had achieved the feat once before, in Budapest in 1958, when Judy Grinham led Margaret Edwards to the wall in the 100 metres backstroke. That championship also marked the only time that a Briton had achieved what Palmer, a gold medal-winner in the 4 x 200 metres relay on Wednesday, was aiming for yesterday; Ian Black, of Aberdeen, is still the only Briton to win three European titles at one championship.

However, Palmer, who finished in 3:50.03, was no match for Brembilla yesterday. As the protagonists marched on to the deck to Deep Purple's Smoke on the Water, a great cheer went up from 500 citizens of Chignolo, a village of 2,500 in northern Italy. They had turned out in support of their local hero, wearing T-shirts bearing the logo "Bremilla First Club".

Brembilla did not disappoint them, rolling past the Briton at the halfway mark as though in a different league. Palmer could not respond and the race, in which Britain's Graeme Smith, warming up for the 1,500 metres tomorrow, finished sixth, was lost.

Brembilla was fourth in the 400 metres in Atlanta when Palmer won his silver medal. The Italian, at 5ft 10in and 11st 4lb some 7in shorter and 37lb lighter than Palmer, was covering a staggering 20 kilometres a day in training by the time he was eight. "I get up to 23 kilometres now," he said yesterday with a smile.

Meanwhile, the stars of the championships were to the fore again yesterday. Alexander Popov shaved a further 0.07sec off his 100 metres freestyle championship record as lead-off man in the Russian 4 x 100 metres freestyle relay team that set a European record of 3min 16.85sec, 0.21sec inside the time they clocked to win the Olympic silver medal last year.

Popov's time was 49.02sec, the exact time that he had recorded when winning the Olympic title for the first time, in 1992. He has now swum ten of the 20 fastest times in history.

Michelle Smith announced yesterday that she had withdrawn from the 200 metres medley today. She said that she was tired and that her legs had felt "wobbly" after her defeat in the 400 metres freestyle, on Thursday. Instead, the double gold medal-winner will concentrate on the 200 metres butterfly tomorrow.

Palmer: bronze medal

Tarnished gold, page 11

BOWLS

Veteran Cook fails to bridge generation gap

BY DAVID RHYS JONES

A BRAVE attempt by the older generation to stem the tide of youthful success failed at Worthing yesterday, but not before Dennis Cook, 78, from Ross-on-Wye, had given the world outdoor fours champion, Andy Thomson, 41, a hard time in the third round of the national triples championship.

Cook's trio, who could boast an aggregate age of 204, were not expected to trouble Paul Hayler, Gary Smith and Thomson, from Blackheath and Greenwich, but played brilliantly, especially in the first half, and a surprise appeared on the cards when the Herefordshire team led 10-6 after 12 ends. A saving sequence of 4-3 and 1-3 came as a relief to the favourites, who were glad to get home, 17-14. Their quarter-final opponents, John Orme, Howard Brealey and Robert Gough, of Church Gresley, were in equally obdurate mood after lunch, though.

With two ends to play, the scores were level at 12-12, but the Kent trio scored a double on the seventeenth and dropped one on the last end to win 14-13, after Gough had trailed the jack with panache with his second delivery to set up a match lie of three shots.

Thomson rattled the woods around and moved the jack, leaving Derbyshire with only one shot, and Gough was unable to add a second, which would have tied the match.

Peter Line, 66, skipped Atherley into the quarter-finals, but they were beaten by a Lincoln St Giles triple skipped by Danny Brown, 33. Blaby, skipped by Tony Brimley, the Leicestershire president, 55, was edged out by a Wiltshire side, whose skip, Kevin Cousins, a junior international, is only 24.

Perhaps the most impressive performance of the day came from the Wigton triple of Paul Barlow, 26, Andy Baxter, 30, and Steve Farish, 27, who won the national singles championship at Worthing in 1992. They overwhelmed a Burton House team, from Lincolnshire, skipped by Mike Asplen, whose No 2, Alan Bates, is 67, by 14 shots, 22-8.

ATHLETICS

Radcliffe improves record

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, IN BRUSSELS

PAULA RADCLIFFE claimed the Commonwealth record, and improved her own British record for 5,000 metres here in the Ivo Van Damme memorial meeting last night. She does not intend to let it rest there.

Radcliffe, the only British woman to reach a track final in an individual event at the world championships in Athens, said, after clipping 1.25sec off her previous record, that she felt capable of breaking the world record.

Once again, Radcliffe was unable to match the finishing pace of Gabriela Szabo, the Romanian who won the world title, but this time she was rewarded. Her new record, of 14min 45.51sec, takes her to within ten seconds of the world mark of 14:36.45, held by Fernanda Ribeiro, from Portugal.

Having finished just outside the medals in Athens, when her lack of a finish was exposed, Radcliffe deserved something more tangible from her efforts last night. None of the three pacemakers managed to go beyond 3,000 metres and it was with five laps to go that Radcliffe seized the initiative.

At that point, she was two seconds inside world-record schedule but, with neither Szabo nor Sally Barsosio, from Kenya, willing to take a share of the work, the pace slackened. With 1,300 metres to go, Radcliffe almost suffered a personal disaster, stumbling on the kerb and having to raise her hands to maintain her balance.

Barsosio had been running on Radcliffe's shoulder and, coming too close to her, she clipped the Briton and almost caused her to fall. Radcliffe maintained the lead until 270 metres from home when Szabo, with her familiar burst of pace, flew past to win in 14:44.21.

This year, Radcliffe has finished second in the world cross country championships, fourth over 5,000 metres at the world championships, improved her 3,000 metres personal best to 8:35.28 and, now, improved her British record to 14:45.51.

Of the world record, Radcliffe said that, with another season's training, and perfect conditions, she should have a chance of breaking it. Conditions were not ideal here, she said: too humid, with a wind down the back straight.

Szabo, world indoor 3,000 metres champion and world outdoor champion, has been beaten only once this season. However, she was not very impressed with herself last night. "I did not run very well," she said, blaming too many celebration parties after Athens for her slight drop in form.

DEGREE COURSE VACANCIES 1997: SCIENCES

South Bank, C800, CL8K, CL83, CR84AB, CR84, BC68, CP87
St Andrews, C802, C800, CG84
Stirling, CG85, C800, CL84, CL83
Strathclyde, Y440
Sunderland, L700
Teesside, L700, LM3J, LL73
Thames Valley, C800*
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Westminster, C800
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Robert Gordon, K280
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Barnsley Col, Y100
Bath Col, F644, N750
Blackburn Col, Y100
Bradford, F930, F931
Brunel, Y100
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Canterbury Christ Church Col, Y100, Y108, *
Central Lancashire, Y408, XY31, XY61
De Montfort, F910, Y160, Y161, Y400
Derby, Y100
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Durham, Y100, Y200, Y102, *
East London, Y108
Edge Hill Uni Col, X7Y1, X7Y1
Glasgow Caledonian, Y100
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Greenwich, Y103, C900
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Heriot-Watt, CG14, Y100
Hertfordshire, Y100, *
Huddersfield, Y108
Kingston, *
Lancaster, Y158
Leicester, Y100, G500
London Uni Col (UCL), V520
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Middlesex, Y400
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Nottingham Trent, Y108
Paisley, Y100, Y1F6
Plymouth, Y108
Robert Gordon, F9N1, B302
Queen Mary Westfield, G900, Y157
Royal Holloway Col, Y100, Y1P4
St Martin Uni Col, Y100
Salford, Y120
Sheffield Hallam, Y100, XY71, P405, Y108
Staffordshire, F800, F801, F902, FL98
Strathclyde, Y100
Teesside, F9M3, F9B9
Trinity Col, XF59
West of England, Y120, FGP4
Wolverhampton, Y100, Y110

SPORT/SPORT(S) SCIENCE/STUDIES

Aberdeen, B600
Anglia, B600
Brighton, LN3R, LN37
Central Lancashire, B600
Cheltenham & Gloucester Col, B600, B6FX, B6F6, B6F9
Chichester, BL63
City, B600, B650
Coventry, B600, *
De Montfort, BD62, BL63
East London, B993
Essex, B6C7, B6C1, B6F3
Glamorgan, B600, B601, *
Grantham Col, 76NB
Greenwich, B600, B601, X591
Halton Col, *
Hull, B6C1, B6G1, B6N1, F1B6
King Alfred's Uni Col, *
Liverpool John Moores, WN47, B600, BX69
Luton, BN67, B6N7
Manchester Metropolitan, B600, Y420
Middlesex, B601E
Moray House Inst, B610
Nene Col, *
Newman Col, LX79, CX19, FX89
Newport, BV68, BL600
North London, CB16, OO7N, Y400, B600, BW68, B601, Y100
Plymouth, N780, 587N, 687N, X3X8, X6X8
Roehampton Inst, B6L3*
Salford, BB96
Staffordshire, B601
St Mark & St John Col, N7W1, N7L8, N781
St Martin Uni Col, Lancaster, B600, X5XV
St Mary's, CB16, BF6X, FB86, QB56, VB86
Southampton, NN17
South Bank, B600, BJ69, BP67, H7B6
Strathclyde, B600
Sunderland, B600
Swansea, B600
Teesside, B600
Trinity Col, XX58
Warrington Col, BN61
Westhill Col, Y414
Wolverhampton, BN67, Y401
Worcester Col, XX58, XX68

STATISTICS/ STATISTICAL SCIENCE

Aberdeen, G400, G408, G402, G404, GN41
Abertay, G140
Aberystwyth, G400
Brighton, G4N1
Brunel, GG41, GG4D, GG4C
Canterbury Christ Church Col, GW45*
City, G4NC, G4ND
Coventry, *
De Montfort, G1G4, GG54
Dundee, GL41, GL4C
East London, G440, GG14
Essex, GL41
Exeter, GN42, GN4F
Glamorgan, GN41
Glasgow Caledonian, G400
Goldsmiths Col, GG45
Greenwich, G4N4, G4M9, G411, G4N1, G4G5
Heriot-Watt, GG14, G400
Hertfordshire, G4F6, G4H7, G4F3, *
Hull, GL41, G4T2
Keele, GW41
Kent, GL41, GG45
Kingston, G4N1, G4NC
Liverpool John Moores, G440
London Uni Col (UCL), G400, G4N1, G4T2
Luton, GN4K, GN41, GG45, FG64, GN45, GL47
Middlesex, Y400
North London, G411, GN41, GGL5, GX49
Nottingham Trent, G400
Portsmouth, G400
Oxford Brookes, GN41, GN4N, *
Queen's, GN42
Queen Mary Westfield, G400
Reading, G400, G401
Sheffield Hallam, G411
St Andrews, G402, G400
Staffordshire, JG34, GH46, FG94, GL48, FG64, FG34, GG54
Strathclyde, G400
Teesside, GN41, GN42
West England, G400
Westminster, GN42

TOXICOLOGY

London, B220
Napier, B220

TROPICAL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Aberdeen, F904

VETERINARY MEDICINE/SCIENCE

Newcastle, D220

ZOOLOGY

Aberdeen, C340, C302, C329, C320, C340
Aberystwyth, C300
Dundee, C300
Leeds, C310
Liverpool John Moores, C310
Queen's, C300
Queen Mary Westfield Col, C300
Reading, C300
Roehampton Inst, C300
Royal Holloway, C300

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

ROVERETO, Italy: International meeting (selected results): **Men: 100m:** 1, O Ezinwa (Nigeria) 10.21sec; 2, V Henderson (US) 10.23; 3, S Tilli (It) 10.30. **200m:** 1, T McCall (US) 20.56; 2, T Wheeler (US) 20.60; 3, D Marsh (Aus) 21.00. **5,000m:** 1, A Garcia (Sp) 13min 20.44sec; 2, L Cherono (Ken) 13:29.70; 3, R Kosgei (Ken) 13:42.82. **110m hurdles:** 1, J Pierce (US) 13.45sec; 2, S Brown (US) 13.52; 3, K van der Kuyp (Aus) 13.78. **Triple jump:** 1, Y Quesada (Cuba) 17.22m; 2, R Chapado (Sp) 16.83; 3, J Roman (Dom Rep) 16.74. **Javelin:** 1, S Makarov (Russ) 83.10m; 2, P Blank (Ger) 81.43; 3, A Linden (Ger) 79.58. **Women: 100m:** 1, C Opara (Nigeria) 11.36sec; 2, E Opkolo (Nigeria) 11.37; 3, M Nku (Nigeria) 11.48. **100m hurdles:** 1, A Atede (Nigeria) 12.94; 2, D Rose (Jam) 12.94; 3, G Russel (Jam) 12.95. **Long jump:** 1, F May (It) 6.85m; 2, E Shekovtsova (Ukr) 6.66; 3, T Vaszi (Hun) 6.26

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal 3 St Louis 2; New York Mets 3 Los Angeles 1 (first game), New York Mets 3 Los Angeles 4 (second game); Pittsburgh 4 San Diego 9, Houston 10 Colorado 4

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Chicago White Sox 6 Toronto 3; Oakland 13 Boston 6, Kansas City 3 Baltimore 4, Milwaukee 1 Detroit 2; Anaheim 3 New York Yankees 4; Seattle 7 Cleveland 6.

BOWLS

WORTHING: All-England championships: Triples: Second round: Cambridge Chesterton bt Ilminster 20-11; Atherley bt Stroud 23-21, North Watford bt Norbridge 21-15, Lincoln St Giles bt Acle St Edmunds 25-18, South Derbyshire MW bt Carlisle Subscription 21-10; Belvedere bt Kings Chase 22-7, Blackheath and Greenwich bt Epsom Park 23-6; Ross on Wye bt Wealdstone 15-12. Blaby bt Nestles 23-16; Droitwich Spa bt Bridgwater BCL 21-11; Portland, Newcastle bt Bletchley Town 19-16, Downton bt Leaside, Luton 28-8; Burton House, Boston bt Banbury Borough 22-16; Baldock Town bt Cheltenham 23-14, Silksworth, Sunderland bt Springhead Park, Hull 28-6, Wigton, Cumbria bt Alexandra Park 20-14. **Third round:** Atherley bt Cambridge Chesterton 21-13; Lincoln St Giles bt North Watford 24-14, South Derbyshire MW bt Peterborough Belvedere 15-14; Blackheath and Greenwich bt Ross-on-Wye 17-14, Blaby bt Droitwich Spa 12-10, Downton bt Portland 17-16; Burton House bt Baldock Town 20-19, Wigton bt Silksworth 21-12. **Quarter-finals:** Lincoln St Giles bt Atherley 24-7, Blackheath and Greenwich bt South Derbyshire MW 14-13; Downton bt Blaby 18-15; Wigton bt Burton House 22-8

LLANDRINDOD WELLS: Atlantic Rim women's championship: Pairs: Second round: United States bt Argentina 30-15, Spain bt Canada 20-17; England (K Hawes and M Price) bt South Africa 24-10; Guernsey (J and A Simon) bt Scotland (J Maxwell and S Gourley) 23-12; Ireland (P Nolan and M Johnston) bt Holland 22-18. Israel bt Namibia 18-17; Jersey (J Jones and S Syvret) bt Wales (N Shipperlee and R Jones) 24-16. **Third round:** Spain bt Argentina 23-12; Canada bt South Africa 20-15; England bt Scotland 28-15; Guernsey bt Holland 29-15, Ireland bt Namibia 38-17; Israel bt Jersey 20-11. Wales bt United States 34-5. **Triples: Second round:** Argentina drew with United States 18-18; Canada bt Spain 20-11, England (J Baker, G Fitzgerald and S Pegel) bt South Africa 16-15; Scotland (K Houston, S Kelly and J Lindores) bt Guernsey (B Hurford, A Mernen and P Harding) 18-15, Ireland (I Minnis, D Kane and P Smith) bt Holland 20-16, Israel bt Namibia 23-18, Wales (K Pearce, S Mansbridge and B Morgan) bt Jersey (A Birch, K Horman, J Lowery) 20-18. **Third round:** Argentina bt Spain 18-12; South Africa bt Canada 32-9; England drew with Scotland 17-17, Holland bt Guernsey 15-11. Namibia bt Ireland 24-12; Jersey bt Israel 18-12, Wales bt United States 19-12

SKEGNESS: English Federation national championships: Quarter-finals: Men: Two-bowl singles: M Johnson (Durham) bt T Addison (Cleveland) 21-16, M Smith (Lincolnshire) bt B Plowman (Northamptonshire) 21-18; B Middleton (Northumberland) bt N Brown (Norfolk) 21-16, J Kennedy (North Essex) bt R Jackson (North Cambridgeshire) 21-20. **Four-bowl singles:** D Redfern (Derbyshire) bt D Turner (North Cambridgeshire) 21-10, R Walker (Lincolnshire) bt S Wood (Northumberland) 21-16, J Summons (Suffolk) bt D Noble (Durham) 21-13. I Wones (Norfolk) bt M Rayson (Huntingdonshire) 21-12. **Under-25 singles:** M Stubbings (Humberside) bt M Marsden (Huntingdonshire) 21-20; R Parker (Lincolnshire) bt S Brooks (Derbyshire) 21-12; P White (Northumberland) bt P Wright (Nottinghamshire) 21-15, G Nash (North Essex) bt S Overton (Norfolk) 21-14. **Women: Two-bowl singles:** J Taylor (Suffolk) bt P Reynolds (Northamptonshire) 21-17. C Jackson (North Cambridgeshire) bt M Barlow (Huntingdonshire) 21-20; D Overton (Humberside) bt E Atkinson (Durham) 21-18, J Eason (Lincolnshire) bt C Pollington (Norfolk) 21-18. **Four-bowl singles:** M Hannant (Norfolk) bt G Wilkinson (Humberside) 21-18, L Mountain (Lincolnshire) bt J Chapman (Huntingdonshire) 21-19; B Lamb (Cleveland) bt Y Harper (Suffolk) 21-17; D Havers (North Essex) bt M Colbourne (Nottinghamshire) 21-19. **Under-25 singles:** H Scott (Humberside) bt L Wood (Northumberland) 21-10, E Simmons (Derbyshire) bt S McKay (Lincolnshire) 21-15; T Harward (Suffolk) bt A Wraith (Durham) 21-19, S Newson (Northamptonshire) bt M Barlow (Huntingdonshire) 21-17.

SHETTLESTON: West of Scotland women's championships: Singles: Semi-finals: F Kerr (Bellshill and Mossend) bt F Whyte (Pnorscroft) 21-19, B Donaghy (Radnor Park) bt T Allison (Condorrat) 21-18. **Final:** Kerr bt Donaghy 21-12. **Pairs: Semi-finals:** Strathclyde bt Ladeside of Kilbirnie 17-11, Riccarton bt Camelon 24-10. **Final:** Riccarton bt Strathclyde 18-13. **Triples: Semi-finals:** Seafield, Ayr bt New Cumnock 16-9; Stranraer bt Blacklands 21-11. **Final:** Seafield bt Stranraer 18-13. **Fours: Semi-finals:** Meikleriggs bt Wishaw 13-12; Kilmarnock bt Shanks 19-15. **Final:** Kilmarnock bt Meikleriggs 19-18

EASTBOURNE: Women's open tournament: Semi-finals: E Logan bt S Sutton 21-10, G Lower bt B Lapham 21-18

CRICKET

TEXACO UNDER-17 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-finals: Durham 130; Northamptonshire 131-5. Northamptonshire win by five wickets. Norfolk 163, Hampshire 166-1. Hampshire win by nine wickets

EQUESTRIANISM

WESTON PARK, Telford: The Pedigree Chum pony club showjumping championships: 1, Vale of Aylesbury (L Collins, J Crippen, M Heck, S Crippen); 2, Hursley; 3, Albrighton Hunt.

FOOTBALL

FAI NATIONAL LEAGUE CUP: Section A: Waterford 0 Kilkenny 0. **Section D:** Drogheda 2 Longford Town 1. **Section F:** Bray 2 UCD 1

FA YOUTH CUP: Preliminary round: Somersham 3 VS Rugby 0. Whitstable 1 Chipstead 5.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Whitchurch 0 Romsey 1

FRENCH LEAGUE: Cannes 0 Bordeaux 2; Strasbourg 1 Nantes 2

DUTCH LEAGUE: MVV Maastricht 0 Feyenoord 3

BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: America-Natal 0 Vasco da Gama 0; Botafogo 1 União São João 1, Bragantino 1 Portuguesa 1; Cruzeiro 4 Criciumá 3; Fluminense 3 Guarani 1; Goias 1 Parana 0; Internacional 2 Coritiba 0, Juventude 1 Santos 1, São Paulo 0 Atlético Mineiro 2; Sport Recife 2 Bahia 0; Corinthians 1 Atletico Paranaense 2.

GLIDING

MUSBACH, Germany: European junior championships: no flying yesterday. Club Class cancelled through thunderstorms. Ninth day (provisional). Standard (535km poly, two completions of 36): 1, K Vesterbacka (Fin, SZD55) 88.1kph, 1,000pts; 2, G Grinza (It, SZD55) 83.5, 991; 3, A Wittmer (Switz, Discus) 488km, 862. British: 9, D Allison (LS8) 485.3km, 857; 20, A Darlington (ASW24) 436, 770; 32 equal, O Ward (Discus) 275.2, 486. Club class (515km poly, two completions of 31): 1, M Johansson (SWE, LS4) 76.4kph, 911pts; 2, J Rebbeck (GB, LS4) 67.4, 896; 3, J Otrusina (Cz, ASW 19) 455km, 829; 16, P Masson (GB Pegasus) 404.6, 709; 27, H Rebbeck (GB, LS4) 373, 629.

GOLF

K CLUB, Co Kildare: Smurfit European Open: Leaders after two rounds (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): **132:** P-U Johansson (Swe) 68, 64. **133:** C Montgomerie 64, 69. **135:** D Chopra (Swe) 66, 69; C Rocca (It) 67, 68, P Haugsrud (Nor) 68, 67. **136:** D Robertson 69, 67, E Romero (Arg) 70, 66, P Walton 68, 68. **137:** P Baker 70, 67; J Townsend (US) 71, 66; M Olander (Swe) 69, 68; P Mitchell 70, 67, A Forsbrand (Swe) 70, 67, D Cooper 68, 69, M A Jimenez (Sp) 69, 68, R Claydon 67, 70; J Robson 70, 67, S Richardson 65, 72. **138:** B Timming (Den) 70, 68; S Field 69, 69, N Fasth (Swe) 65, 73; M Florioli (It) 70, 68, M Long (NZ) 71, 67. **139:** J Mellor 70, 69; F Jacobson (Swe) 75, 64, P McGinley 69, 70, D Gilford 69, 70, A Oldcorn 71, 68; P Sjoland (Swe) 68, 71, B Davis 69, 70. **140:** M Campbell (NZ) 68, 72; S Struver (Ger) 73, 67, C Whitelaw (SA) 69, 71, P Lawrie 69, 71, J Haeggman (Swe) 71, 69; R Rafferty 73, 67

GENEVA: European amateur championship: Leading first-round scores: 67: K Eljord (Nor), T Dier (Ger), M Lafeber (Holl), G Havret (Fr), K Bjarnason (Ice), P Neels (Ger). **68:** C Nilsson (Swe), R Buschow (Holl). **69:** C Rodgers (Eng), N Kraay (Holl), J Beckstrom (Swe), J Torines (Swe), M Brizon (Fr)

AKRON, Ohio: World Series: Leading first-round scores (United States unless stated): **67:** T Woods, P Mickelson. **68:** N Price (Zim), G Norman (Aus), J Cook, E Els (SA), D Love, M O'Meara. **69:** S Cink, J Sluman, D Hart, S McCarron, L Westwood (GB), F Nobilo (NZ). **Other scores: 72:** D Clarke (GB). **73:** N Faldo (GB)

BURHILL: Family Foursomes: Semi-finals: J and T Clink (Lilley Brook) bt M and J Bartlett (Beaconsfield) 4 and 3, L and S Sechiari (Woking) bt M J and S Toole (Brockenhurst Manor) 2 and 1. **Final:** Clink and Clink bt Sechiari and Sechiari 7 and 6.

STOCKHOLM: Women's Compaq Open: Leaders after two rounds (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated). **134:** A Sorenstam (Swe) 67, 67. **137:** N Lopez (US) 66, 71. **140:** K Lunn (Aus) 71, 69. **143:** C Nilsmark (Swe) 71, 72; K Webb (Aus) 74, 69, A Nicholas 71, 72; C Sorenstam (Swe) 70, 73. **144:** C Schmitt (Fr) 73, 71, J Mills (Aus) 71, 73. **145:** C Dibnah (Aus) 73, 72; L Hackney 70, 75, L Lambert (Aus) 74, 71; H Alfredsson (Swe) 71, 74

SILLOTH ON SOLWAY: British women's amateur strokeplay championship: Leading final scores: 293: K-M Juul (Den) 70, 79, 72, 72. **296:** E Ratcliffe (Sandiway) 72, 79, 75, 70. **298:** K Rostron (Clitheroe) 73, 77, 72, 76. **299:** A-B Sánchez (Sp) 77, 80, 68, 74. **300:** L Tupholme (Northcliffe) 72, 80, 72, 76. **301:** H Monaghan (Longniddry) 73, 83, 77, 68; C Kuld (Den) 73, 82, 70, 76. **302:** M-J Pons (Sp) 70, 86, 72, 74, A Laing (Heriot-Watt University) 72, 80, 75, 75

PGA LONDON OPEN: Leading final scores: 272: P Robshaw (Farnham Park) 68, 66, 69, 69. **273:** P Winston (Aldenham) 69, 67, 68, 69; D Parris (North Foreland) 66, 72, 67, 68. **274:** P Golding (South Herts) 71, 68, 66, 69. **275:** H Stott (Laleham) 68, 67, 68, 72; G Stubbington (Dummer) 68, 65, 68, 74. P Hughes (Hankley Common) 69, 70, 67, 69. **276:** A Lovelace (Hoebridge Golf Centre) 70, 71, 70, 65; T Spence (East Sussex National) 70, 66, 70, 70; R Lewis (Royal St George's) 67, 67, 67, 75; L Fickling (Enfield) 71, 69, 67, 69; D Armor (Millbrook) 73, 68, 69, 66

RUGBY LEAGUE

DIVISIONAL PREMIERSHIP: East Yorkshire pool: Featherstone Rovers 18 Wakefield Trinity 14. **Lancashire pool:** Leigh Centurions 24 Swinton Lions 30

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (ARL): Balmain 26 Parramatta 6.

AUSTRALASIAN SUPER LEAGUE: Adelaide Rams 36 Penrith Panthers 16

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Wasps XV 40 Harlequins XV 36 (at Sudbury)

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: England Under-21 4 Malaysia 0, England Under-21 4 Malaysia 0 (both at Lilleshall)

SAILING

LOOE, Cornwall: ISO national championships: Leaders after five races. 1, S Rix and D Hind (Norfolk Broads SC) 7pts; 2, J Craig and A Watson (Island Barn) 10; 3, D Willett and S Foxen (Brightlingsea) 12

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: Ipswich 57 Coventry 32

PREMIER LEAGUE: Sheffield 46 Newport 44

POOLE: Golden Gauntlet match race: P Karlsson (Wolverhampton) bt C Boyce (Poole, holder)

SWIMMING

SEVILLE: European championships: Finals: Men: 200m breaststroke: 1, A Goukov (Bela) 2min 13.90sec; 2, A Korneyev (Russ) 2:14.40; 3, D Malek (Cz) 2:14.74; 4, B Kuipers (Holl) 2:14.83; 5, J Couto (Por) 2:14.90; 6, S Perrot (Fr) 2:14.94; 7, J-C Sarnin (Fr) 2:15.19; 8, A Paczynski (Pol) 2:16.33. **British non-qualifiers:** A Ayres, fourth in heat three. R Maden, fifth in heat three. **400m freestyle:** 1, E Brembilla (It) 3min 45.96sec; 2, M Rosolino (It) 3:48.11; 3, P Palmer (GB) 3:50.03; 4, I Snitko (Ukr) 3:51.12; 5, D Zavgorodny (Ukr) 3:53.98; 6, G Smith (GB) 3:54.30; 7, B Szabados (Hun) 3:56.19; 8, S Roure (Sp) 3:55.95. **4 x 100m freestyle relay:** 1, Russia 3min 16.85sec (European record); 2, Germany 3:18.33; 3, Holland 3:20.82; 4, Great Britain (N Shackel, J Salter, G Meadows, M Foster) 3:21.15; 5, Sweden 3:21.77; 6, Italy 3:22.98; 7, Israel 3:23.10; 8, Spain 3:23.74. **Women: 100m breaststroke:** 1, A Kovacs (Hun) 1min 08.08sec; 2, S Bodarenko (Ukr) 1:08.87; 3, B Becue (Bel) 1:09.42; 4, A Poczak (Pol) 1:09.56; 5, D Amenkiel (Pol) 1:09.81; 6, M Baans (Holl) 1:10.67; 7, V Lischka (Austria) 1:10.73; 8, J King (GB) 1:10.93. **British non-qualifier:** L Hindmarsh, fifth in heat one. **100m butterfly:** 1, M Jacobsen (Den) 59.64sec; 2, M Moravcova (Slovakia) 59.74; 3, J Sjoberg (Swe) 1:00.07; 4, S Pozdeyeva (Russ) 1:00.28; 5, I Tocchini (It) 1:00.56; 6, A Urynuk (Pol) 1:00.77; 7, C Jeanson (Fr) 1:01.46; 8, M Paerssinen (Fin) 1:01.52. **British non-qualifiers:** C Foot, fifth in heat three; S Rolph, fifth in heat five

TENNIS

HAVANT: Men's satellite tournament: Final: C Wilkinson (GB) bt P Hand (GB) 6-4, 7-5

COMMACK, New York: Men's tournament: Second round: M Chang (US) bt T Woodbridge (Aus) 6-0, 6-2; G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt N Lapentti (Ec) 5-7, 6-2, 7-6; M-K Göllner (Ger) bt G Kuerten (Br) 6-3, 7-6, C Moya (Sp) bt M Rosset (Switz) 6-3, 2-1 ret; P Rafter (Aus) bt B Ulihrach (Cz) 7-5, 7-5, R Reneberg (US) bt A Boetsch (Fr) 6-4, 6-4; J Alonso (Sp) bt J Bjorkman (Swe) 6-3, 6-4; T Enqvist (Swe) bt C Pioline (Fr) 7-5, 4-6, 6-1

ATLANTA: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: I Majoli (Cro) bt B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) 6-2, 7-5; S Testud (Fr) wo M Seles (US), L Davenport (US) bt D van Roost (Bel) 6-1, 7-5. A Coetzer (SA) bt J Novotna (Cz) 1-6, 6-3, 6-1. **Semi-final:** Testud bt Majoli 7-5, 6-3

WATER POLO

SEVILLE: European championships: Men: Semi-finals: Yugoslavia bt Croatia 8-7, Hungary bt Russia 10-7. **Play-offs: Fifth:** Spain bt Italy 8-6. **Seventh:** Greece bt Slovakia 13-9. **Women: Play-offs: Fifth:** Hungary bt Germany 10-5. **Seventh:** France bt Greece 9-6.

مكتبة الاهرام

Have you chosen your fantasy team?

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	Price
10101	Jim Leighton	Aberdeen	2.0
10201	David Seaman	Arsenal	5.0
10301	*Mark Bosnich*	*Aston Villa*	*3.0*
10401	David Watson	Barnsley	1.0
10501	Tim Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.5
10601	Keith Branagan	Bolton Wanderers	1.5
10701	Stewart Kerr	Celtic	4.0
10801	*Ed de Goey*	*Chelsea*	*3.0*
10901	Steve Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.5
11001	Carlo Nash	Crystal Palace	1.0
11002	Kevin Miller	Crystal Palace	2.0
11101	Mart Poom	Derby County	1.5
11201	Sieb Dykstra	Dundee United	3.0
11301	Ian Westwater	Dunfermline	1.0
11401	Neville Southall	Everton	2.0
11501	Gilles Rousset	Hearts	1.5
11601	Chris Reid	Hibernian	1.0
11701	*Dragoje Lekovic*	*Kilmarnock*	*1.0*
11801	Nigel Martyn	Leeds United	3.5
11901	Kasey Keller	Leicester City	2.0
12001	David James	Liverpool	3.5
12101	Peter Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.0
12201	*Scott Howie*	*Motherwell*	*1.0*
12301	Shay Given	Newcastle United	4.0
12401	Andy Goram	Rangers	5.0
12501	Kevin Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
12601	Alan Main	St Johnstone	0.5
12701	Maik Taylor	Southampton	1.5
12801	Ian Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
12901	Ludek Miklosko	West Ham United	2.0
13001	Neil Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.5

FULL BACKS

Code	Name	Team	Price
20201	Lee Dixon	Arsenal	3.0
20202	*Nigel Winterburn*	*Arsenal*	*3.0*
20203	Emmanuel Petit	Arsenal	2.5
20301	Steve Staunton	Aston Villa	3.0
20302	Alan Wright	Aston Villa	3.0
20303	Simon Grayson	Aston Villa	2.5
20304	Fernando Nelson	Aston Villa	2.0
20401	Nicky Eaden	Barnsley	0.5
20402	Neil Thompson	Barnsley	0.5
20502	Jeff Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	2.0
20503	Patrick Valery	Blackburn Rovers	2.0
20601	Neil Cox	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
20602	*Robbie Elliott*	*Bolton Wanderers*	*2.0*
20701	Tommy Boyd	Celtic	3.5
20702	Tosh McKinlay	Celtic	3.5
20703	Jackie McNamara	Celtic	3.0
20501	Graeme Le Saux	Chelsea	4.0
20801	Dan Petrescu	Chelsea	4.0
20802	Celestine Babayaro	Chelsea	2.5
20901	David Burrows	Coventry City	1.0
20902	Brian Borrows	Coventry City	1.0
20903	Marcus Hall	Coventry City	1.0
21001	Dean Gordon	Crystal Palace	1.5
21002	*Marc Edworthy*	*Crystal Palace*	*1.5*
21003	Kevin Muscat	Crystal Palace	1.0
21101	Chris Powell	Derby County	1.5
21102	Dean Yates	Derby County	1.0
21401	Andy Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.5
21402	Earl Barrett	Everton	1.5
21403	Terry Phelan	Everton	1.5
21501	Gary Locke	Hearts	1.5
21701	Dylan Kerr	Kilmarnock	1.0
21801	Gary Kelly	Leeds United	2.5
21802	David Robertson	Leeds United	2.5
21901	*Mike Whitlow*	*Leicester City*	*1.5*
21902	Steve Guppy	Leicester City	1.5
22001	Stig Inge Bjornebye	Liverpool	4.0
22002	Jason McAteer	Liverpool	4.0
22101	Denis Irwin	Manchester United	4.0
22102	Gary Neville	Manchester United	3.5
22103	*Phil Neville*	*Manchester United*	*3.5*
22301	Steve Watson	Newcastle United	3.0
22302	Warren Barton	Newcastle United	2.0
22303	John Beresford	Newcastle United	1.5
22304	Stuart Pearce	Newcastle United	3.0
22401	Alex Cleland	Rangers	3.0
22402	Stale Stensaas	Rangers	3.0
22501	Patrick Blondeau	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
22502	Ian Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.0
22701	Jason Dodd	Southampton	1.0
22702	Francis Benali	Southampton	0.75
22703	Simon Charlton	Southampton	0.75
22801	Clive Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
22802	Justin Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.0
22901	Julian Dicks	West Ham United	3.0
22902	Andy Impey	West Ham United	1.5
23001	*Ben Thatcher*	*Wimbledon*	*2.0*
23002	Kenny Cunningham	Wimbledon	2.0
23003	Alan Kimble	Wimbledon	2.0

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	Price
30101	Brian O'Neil	Aberdeen	2.0
30201	Tony Adams	Arsenal	3.5
30202	*Martin Keown*	*Arsenal*	*3.5*
30203	Gilles Grimandi	Arsenal	2.0
30301	Gareth Southgate	Aston Villa	3.5
30302	Ugo Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.5
30401	Arjan de Zeeuw	Barnsley	1.0
30402	*Adrian Moses*	*Barnsley*	0.5
30403	Matty Appleby	Barnsley	0.5
30502	Colin Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.0
30504	Stephane Henchoz	Blackburn Rovers	2.0
30601	Gerry Taggart	Bolton Wanderers	1.5
30602	Gudni Bergsson	Bolton Wanderers	1.0
30603	Chris Fairclough	Bolton Wanderers	1.0
30701	Enrico Annoni	Celtic	3.0
30702	Malky MacKay	Celtic	3.0
30703	Alan Stubbs	Celtic	3.0
30801	Frank Leboeuf	Chelsea	3.0
30802	*Michael Duberry*	*Chelsea*	*3.0*
30803	Steve Clarke	Chelsea	2.5
30804	Bernard Lambourde	Chelsea	2.5
30901	Liam Daish	Coventry City	1.5
30902	Richard Shaw	Coventry City	1.5
30903	Paul Williams	Coventry City	1.5
31001	Andy Roberts	Crystal Palace	1.5
31002	Andy Linighan	Crystal Palace	0.75
31003	David Tuttle	Crystal Palace	0.75
31101	Igor Stimac	Derby County	2.5
31102	Jacob Laursen	Derby County	1.5
31201	Steven Pressley	Dundee United	2.0
31301	Greg Shields	Dunfermline	1.5
31401	Slaven Bilic	Everton	3.0
31402	Dave Watson	Everton	2.0
31501	David Weir	Hearts	2.0
31601	John Hughes	Hibernian	1.5
31801	David Wetherall	Leeds United	2.0
31802	Gunnar Halle	Leeds United	2.0
31803	Robert Molenaar	Leeds United	2.0
31804	Lucas Radebe	Leeds United	1.5
31901	Matt Elliott	Leicester City	3.0
31902	*Pontus Kaamark*	*Leicester City*	2.0
31903	Steve Walsh	Leicester City	1.5
32001	Mark Wright	Liverpool	3.0
32002	Dominic Matteo	Liverpool	3.0
32003	Bjorn Kvarme	Liverpool	3.0
32101	David May	Manchester United	3.5
32102	Gary Pallister	*Manchester United*	3.5
30501	Henning Berg	Manchester United	3.0
32201	Martin van der Gaag	Motherwell	1.5
32301	Philippe Albert	Newcastle United	3.0
32302	Darren Peacock	Newcastle United	3.0
32303	Steve Howey	Newcastle United	2.0
32304	Alessandro Pistone	Newcastle United	3.0
32401	Sergio Porrini	Rangers	3.5
32402	Joachim Bjorklund	Rangers	3.5
32403	Lorenzo Amoruso	Rangers	3.5
32501	Des Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
32502	*Jon Newsome*	*Sheffield Wednesday*	2.5
32503	Peter Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
32601	Stuart McCluskey	St Johnstone	0.5
32701	Richard Dryden	Southampton	1.0
32702	Claus Lundekvam	Southampton	1.0
32703	Ulrich van Gobbel	Southampton	1.0
32801	Sol Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
32802	John Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
32803	Ramon Vega	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
32804	Colin Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
32901	Rio Ferdinand	West Ham United	2.5
32902	*Richard Hall*	*West Ham United*	*2.0*
32903	Steve Potts	West Ham United	1.5
31403	David Unsworth	West Ham United	2.0
33001	Chris Perry	Wimbledon	2.5
33002	Dean Blackwell	Wimbledon	2.5

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	Price
40101	Eoin Jess	Aberdeen	3.0
40102	Paul Bernard	Aberdeen	2.0
40201	Marc Overmars	Arsenal	5.5
40202	Patrick Vieira	Arsenal	3.5
40203	Stephen Hughes	Arsenal	2.5
40204	Ray Parlour	Arsenal	2.5
40205	David Platt	Arsenal	1.5
40301	Mark Draper	Aston Villa	4.0
40302	Ian Taylor	Aston Villa	2.5
40303	Andy Townsend	Aston Villa	2.0
40401	*Neil Redfearn*	Barnsley	*3.0*
40402	Eric Tinkler	Barnsley	2.0
40403	Darren Sheridan	Barnsley	1.0
40404	Martin Bullock	Barnsley	0.5
40501	Jason Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
40502	*Billy McKinlay*	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
40503	Tim Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
40504	Garry Flitcroft	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
40601	Alan Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	3.0
40602	Scott Sellars	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
40603	Per Frandsen	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
40604	Michael Johansen	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
40605	Jamie Pollock	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
40701	Andreas Thom	Celtic	4.5
40702	Phil O'Donnell	Celtic	3.0
40703	Peter Grant	Celtic	1.5
40704	Craig Burley	Celtic	3.0
42503	Regi Blinker	Celtic	1.5
40801	Dennis Wise	Chelsea	4.0
40802	Roberto di Matteo	Chelsea	4.0
40803	Eddie Newton	Chelsea	2.5
40804	Gustavo Poyet	Chelsea	2.0
40901	Gary McAllister	Coventry City	2.5
40902	Trond Egil Soltvedt	Coventry City	1.5
40903	John Salako	Coventry City	1.5
41002	Simon Rodger	Crystal Palace	1.0
41003	Darren Pitcher	Crystal Palace	0.25
41004	Paul Warhurst	Crystal Palace	1.5
41005	Attilio Lombardo	Crystal Palace	2.5
41101	Aljosa Asanovic	Derby County	2.5
41102	Stefano Eranio	Derby County	2.5
41103	Darryl Powell	Derby County	1.5
41104	Christian Dailly	Derby County	*1.5*
41105	Robin van der Laan	Derby County	1.0
41106	Jonathan Hunt	Derby County	1.0
41201	Robbie Winters	Dundee United	3.5
41301	Andy Smith	Dunfermline	2.0
41302	Derek Fleming	Dunfermline	1.5
41401	Gary Speed	Everton	3.5
41402	Joe Parkinson	Everton	1.5
41403	Gareth Farrelly	Everton	1.5
41404	Danny Williamson	Everton	2.0
41501	Neil McCann	Hearts	2.5
41601	Chris Jackson	Hibernian	2.0
41602	Barry Lavety	Hibernian	2.0
41701	Jim McIntyre	Kilmarnock	2.0
41001	David Hopkin	Leeds United	3.5
41801	Lee Bowyer	Leeds United	3.0
41802	Alf Inge Haaland	Leeds United	2.5
41803	*Lee Sharpe*	Leeds United	2.5
41901	Garry Parker	Leicester City	2.0
41902	Neil Lennon	Leicester City	2.0
41903	Muzzy Izzet	Leicester City	2.0
41904	Scott Taylor	Leicester City	1.9
42001	Steve McManaman	Liverpool	7.0
42002	*Oyvind Leonhardsen*	*Liverpool*	*4.0*
42003	Michael Thomas	Liverpool	3.0
42004	Jamie Redknapp	Liverpool	3.0
42006	Paul Ince	Liverpool	5.0
42101	David Beckham	Manchester United	8.0
42102	Ryan Giggs	Manchester United	7.0
42103	*Roy Keane*	*Manchester United*	5.0
42104	Nicky Butt	Manchester United	4.0
42105	Andy Cole	Manchester United	5.0
42201	Billy Davies	Motherwell	2.0
42301	Robert Lee	Newcastle United	5.0
42302	Keith Gillespie	Newcastle United	3.5
42303	David Batty	Newcastle United	2.5
42005	John Barnes	Newcastle United	2.5
42401	Brian Laudrup	Rangers	8.0
42402	Paul Gascoigne	Rangers	6.0
42403	Jonas Thern	Rangers	4.0
42404	Jorg Albertz	Rangers	4.0
42501	Benito Carbone	Sheffield Wednesday	3.0
42502	Mark Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
42504	Graham Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	1.0
42601	Attila Sekerlioglu	St Johnstone	0.75
42701	Jim Magilton	Southampton	1.5
42702	*Robbie Slater*	*Southampton*	*0.75*
42703	Neil Maddison	Southampton	0.75
42801	Andy Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
42802	Darren Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
42803	Ruel Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
42804	David Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
42805	David Ginola	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
42901	Eyal Berkovic	West Ham United	2.5
42902	Steve Lomas	West Ham United	2.5
42903	John Moncur	West Ham United	2.0
42904	Michael Hughes	West Ham United	1.5
43001	Robbie Earle	Wimbledon	4.5
43002	Neil Ardley	Wimbledon	2.0
43003	Vinny Jones	Wimbledon	2.0
43004	Ceri Hughes	Wimbledon	1.5

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	Price
50101	Billy Dodds	Aberdeen	5.0
50201	Ian Wright	Arsenal	7.5
50202	Dennis Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.5
50301	Dwight Yorke	Aston Villa	7.5
50302	Stan Collymore	Aston Villa	7.0
50303	Savo Milosevic	Aston Villa	3.0
50401	Georgi Hristov	Barnsley	1.5
50402	John Hendrie	Barnsley	1.5
50403	Clint Marcelle	Barnsley	1.0
50501	Kevin Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	4.0
50502	Martin Dahlin	Blackburn Rovers	4.0
50503	*Chris Sutton*	Blackburn Rovers	3.0
50601	John McGinlay	Bolton Wanderers	3.0
50602	Nathan Blake	Bolton Wanderers	2.5
50603	Peter Beardsley	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
50701	Jorge Cadete	Celtic	8.0
50703	Tommy Johnson	Celtic	3.5
51601	Darren Jackson	Celtic	4.0
50801	Gianfranco Zola	Chelsea	7.0
50802	Mark Hughes	*Chelsea*	5.0
50901	Dion Dublin	Coventry City	5.0
50902	Darren Huckerby	Coventry City	3.0
50903	Noel Whelan	*Coventry City*	2.5
51001	Neil Shipperley	Crystal Palace	2.5
51002	Dougie Freedman	Crystal Palace	2.5
51003	Bruce Dyer	Crystal Palace	2.0
51101	Dean Sturridge	Derby County	4.0
51102	Ashley Ward	Derby County	2.0
51103	Francesco Baiano	Derby County	2.0
51201	Andy McLaren	Dundee United	3.0
51202	Kjell Olofsson	Dundee United	2.5
51301	Garry Britton	Dunfermline	2.0
51401	Duncan Ferguson	Everton	5.0
51402	*Nicky Barmby*	*Everton*	3.0
51403	Graham Stuart	Everton	2.5
51501	John Robertson	Hearts	3.5
51701	Paul Wright	Kilmarnock	5.0
51702	Ally Mitchell	Kilmarnock	2.5
51801	J F Hasselbaink	Leeds United	3.0
51803	Rod Wallace	*Leeds United*	1.5
51901	Steve Claridge	Leicester City	4.5
51902	Emile Heskey	Leicester City	4.5
51903	Ian Marshall	Leicester City	2.0
51904	Graham Fenton	Leicester City	2.0
52001	Robbie Fowler	Liverpool	8.5
52002	*Patrik Berger*	*Liverpool*	3.0
52003	Karlheinz Riedle	Liverpool	4.5
52101	O G Solskjaer	Manchester United	7.5
52102	Teddy Sheringham	Manchester United	7.0
52103	Paul Scholes	Manchester United	6.0
52201	Owen Coyle	Motherwell	3.0
52202	Tommy Coyne	*Motherwell*	3.0
52301	Alan Shearer	Newcastle United	10.0
52303	Faustino Asprilla	Newcastle United	3.5
52401	Marco Negri	Rangers	3.5
52402	Sebastian Rozental	Rangers	3.5
52403	Gordon Durie	Rangers	3.0
50702	*Paolo di Canio*	*Sheffield Wednesday*	8.5
52501	Andy Booth	Sheffield Wednesday	4.0
52502	David Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
52503	Richie Humphreys	Sheffield Wednesday	2.0
52601	George O'Boyle	St Johnstone	1.5
52602	Roddy Grant	St Johnstone	1.0
52701	Matt Le Tissier	Southampton	*7.0*
52702	Egil Ostenstad	Southampton	4.0
52703	Michael Evans	Southampton	2.0
52302	Les Ferdinand	Tottenham Hotspur	7.5
52801	Steffen Iversen	Tottenham Hotspur	3.5
52802	Chris Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	3.5
52901	*John Hartson*	*West Ham United*	*3.0*
52902	Paul Kitson	West Ham United	3.0
52903	Iain Dowie	West Ham United	1.5
53001	Marcus Gayle	Wimbledon	4.0
53002	Efan Ekoku	Wimbledon	4.0
53003	Dean Holdsworth	Wimbledon	3.0

[illegible]

Code	Name	Team	Price
60101	Roy Aitken	Aberdeen	2.5
60201	Arsène Wenger	Arsenal	4.5
60301	Brian Little	Aston Villa	3.5
60401	Danny Wilson	Barnsley	0.5
60501	*Roy Hodgson*	*Blackburn Rovers*	*3.0*
60601	Colin Todd	Bolton Wanderers	1.5
60701	Wim Jansen	Celtic	4.0
60801	Ruud Gullit	Chelsea	3.5
60901	Gordon Strachan	Coventry City	1.0
61001	Steve Coppell	Crystal Palace	0.75
61101	*Jim Smith*	*Derby County*	*1.0*
61201	Tommy McLean	Dundee United	3.0
61301	Bert Paton	Dunfermline	1.0
61401	Howard Kendall	Everton	2.0
61501	Jim Jefferies	Hearts	1.5
61601	*Jim Duffy*	Hibernian	1.0
61701	Bobby Williamson	Kilmarnock	*1.0*
61801	George Graham	Leeds United	2.0
61901	Martin O'Neill	Leicester City	1.5
62001	Roy Evans	Liverpool	4.0
62101	Alex Ferguson	Manchester United	5.0
62201	Alex McLeish	Motherwell	1.0
62301	Kenny Dalglish	Newcastle United	4.5
62401	Walter Smith	Rangers	5.0
62501	David Pleat	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
62601	Paul Sturrock	St Johnstone	0.5
62701	Dave Jones	Southampton	0.75
62801	Gerry Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
62901	Harry Redknapp	West Ham United	1.5
63001	Joe Kinnear	Wimbledon	2.0

HOW TO PLAY

- You have £35 million to spend on a team of 11 players and a manager.
- You must pick 1 GOALKEEPER, 2 FULL BACKS, 2 CENTRAL DEFENDERS, 4 MIDFIELD PLAYERS, 2 STRIKERS, 1 MANAGER.
- *You must not exceed your budget of £35 million. You must not pick more than two* individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club. If after a real-life transfer, you find you have three players from one club in your team, you must sell one of them. No player may be picked twice.
- Players and the manager must be chosen from Interactive Team Football category lists, which include code numbers and values.
- Your players and manager will accumulate points in all 1997-98 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from Saturday August 9 onwards.
- *The team with the most points at the end of the season will win the £50,000 first prize.* You may enter as many teams as you like whenever you like. Readers entering a mini-league should tick the box on the application form. There is no additional charge.

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS

POINTS AWARDED

GOALKEEPER
- Keeps clean sheet (per half)** .... +3 points
- Scores goal .... +20 points
- Saves penalty .... +1 point

FULL BACK / CENTRAL DEFENDER
- Keeps clean sheet* .... +3 points
- Scores goal .... +4 points

MIDFIELD PLAYER
- Keeps clean sheet* .... +1 point
- Scores goal .... +3 points

STRIKER
- Scores goal .... +2 points

ALL PLAYERS
- On winning side .... +1 point
- Appearance† .... +1 point
- Scores hat-trick .... +10 bonus points

MANAGER
- Wins .... +3 points
- Draws .... +1 point

*** Must have played a complete half in the match to earn +3 points*
** Must have played for 75 minutes in the match † Must have played for 45 minutes in the match*

POINTS DEDUCTED

GOALKEEPER
- Concedes goal .... -2 points

FULL BACK / CENTRAL DEFENDER
- *Concedes goal* .... -1 point

ALL PLAYERS
- Sent off .... -3 points
- Booked .... -1 point
- Concedes penalty .... -1 point
- Misses penalty .... -1 point
- Scores own goal .... -1 point

MANAGER
- Team loses .... -1 point

TRANSFERS

Each team entered by August 9 will be allocated 60 transfers for the season. Thereafter the transfer allocation will be decreased by 3 transfers each week up to December 13 when all teams registered on that day will be allocated an extra 20 transfers. Teams registered after this date will be allocated 20 transfers for the season. Full details of how to transfer will appear in *The Times* regularly during the season.

HOW TO ENTER YOUR TEAM

- **FOR POST AND FAX** See the entry form, right
- **BY TELEPHONE: 0891 405 011 (UK)**
+44 990 100 308 (Republic of Ireland)

Select your team and follow the simple step-by-step instructions. Tap in the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your chosen players and manager. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters). *Finally you will be given a ten-digit personal identification number (PIN).* Telephone registrations via Touch-tone (DTMF) telephones only. Most push-button telephones with * and a hash key are Touch-tone. Calls cost 50p per minute. Each call lasts about eight minutes. Public telephone calls cost about double.

- ***BY the Internet***

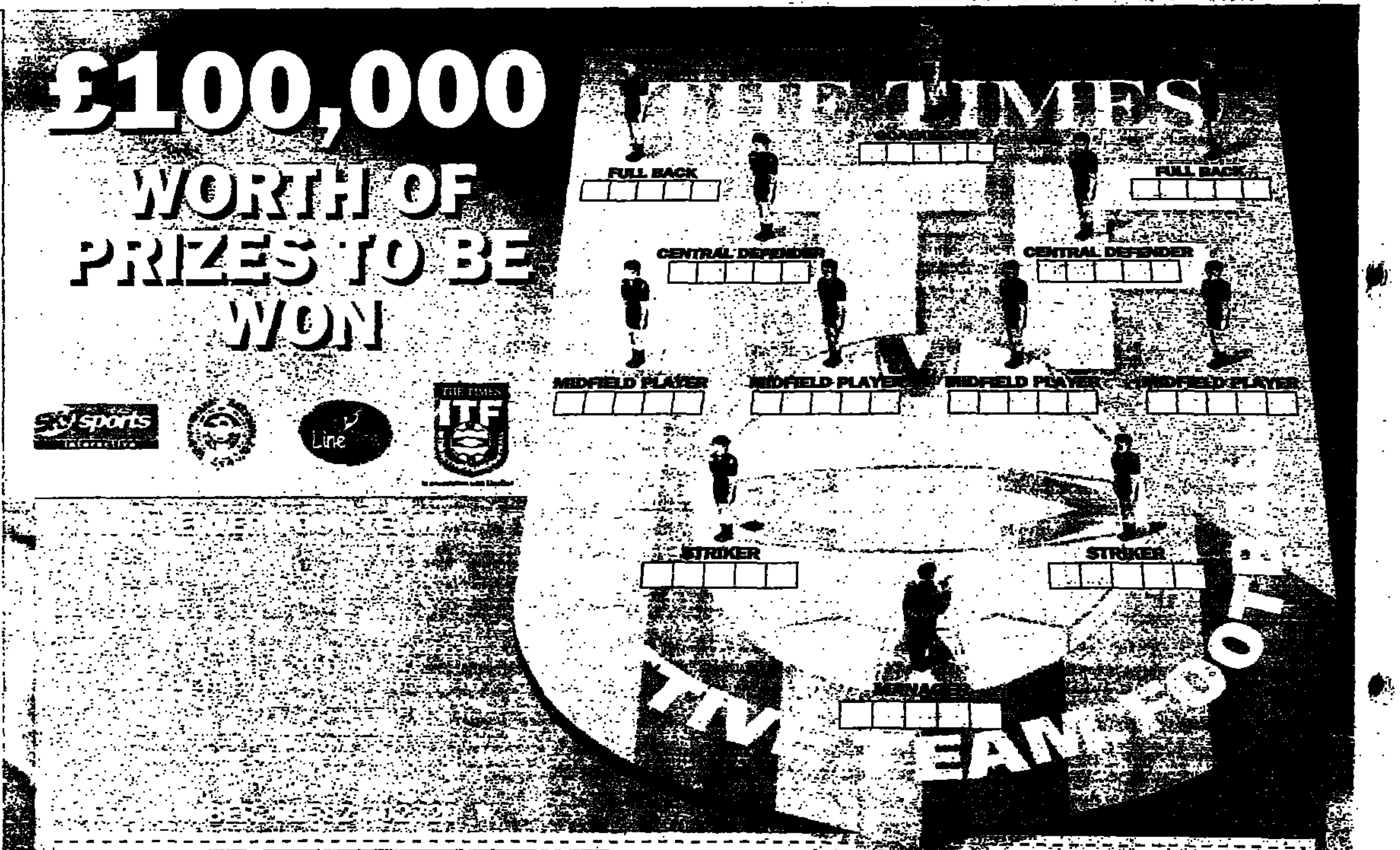
ITF is available on *The Times* website (www.the-times.co.uk). The Internet version enables you to enter the game and play for the entire season, giving you access to league tables, fixture lists, player records and your team history.

- ***BY LineOne***

You can enter ITF free on LineOne. This includes all transfers and checking throughout the season. For your software which includes one month's free membership of LineOne plus ten hours' access to LineOne and the Internet call 0800 111 210. For more information visit the LineOne website at www.LineOne.net.

- **BY Sky Sports Interactive**

Play ITF with Sky Sports Interactive on 0891 770 700 (calls charged at 50p per minute). Details on Sky Text page 116.



TEAM NAME ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ *(Up to 16 characters)*
Goalkeeper ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Full back ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Full back ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Central defender ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Central defender ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Midfielder ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Midfielder ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Midfielder ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Midfielder ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Striker ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Striker ☐☐☐☐☐ ....
Manager ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL ENTRANTS
First Name ....
Surname ....
Address ....
....
Postcode .... Daytime Tel ....
Cheque / PO No. ....

This year ITF will incorporate separate mini leagues. Please tick the correct league(s) for your entry.
☐ ITF League ☐ Women's League ☐ Student League ☐ Youth League (Under 18)

Entrants must be 18 or over to play in the ITF league, the Women's league and the Students' league. Entrants under 18 may enter the Youth league only and are not eligible for cash prizes.

Which age group are you? (TICK BOX)
1. 18-24 ☐ 2. 25-34 ☐ 3. 35-44 ☐
4. 45-54 ☐ 5. 55-64 ☐ 6. 65+ ☐

How often do you read *The Times*?
Less than once a week ☐ 1-3 times a week ☐ 4-6 times a week ☐

How often do you read *The Sunday Times*?
Less than once a month ☐ *1-2 times a month* ☐ *3-4 times a month* ☐

Do you have a PC at home? Yes ☐ No ☐ If you do not wish to receive other offers from Times Newspapers, please tick box ☐

Send your entry with £2 entry fee (entrants outside the UK or Rep of Ireland £10 sterling) to: The Times Interactive Team Football, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ.

FOR FAX ENTRY, FILL IN CREDIT CARD DETAILS BELOW

Fax your entry to: UK 0660 600 563
Outside UK +44 171 649 1726

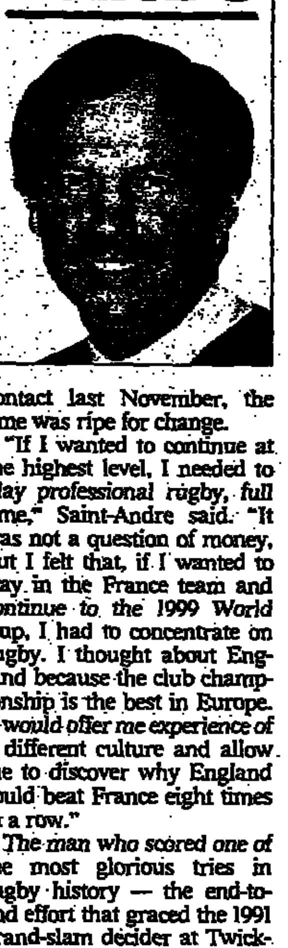
Credit Card Number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry date ☐☐/☐☐
Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Name on card ....
(Supply address of registered cardholder if different from above)
Signature .... Name ....
Address ....
Postcode .... Daytime Tel ....

** Calls cost 50p per minute*

Gloucester to profit from French connection with the brothers Saint-Andre as new season starts

Falling in love with the men in The Shed

DAVID HANDS



THE man said to have put a smile on the face of French rugby has not lost his sense of humour. "I play for Gloucester but I live in Cheltenham," Philippe Saint-Andre said, and he laughs: even in the short time that he has been at Kingsholm, he knows the subtle distinction between the two.

The words "cosmopolitan" and "Gloucester" sit rather awkwardly together, but that is what Tom Walkinshaw's money has enabled the archetypal English rugby club to become. Hence a three-quarter line against Bristol today made up of two French brothers, an Australian and a Western Samoan.

This is the first season of the rest of Saint-Andre's rugby life. Few distinctions have passed the 30 year-old from Romans by: 64 appearances on the wing for France, 29 of those as captain, and 31 tries, which puts him sixth in the all-time list and second only to Serge Blanco in France.

Now, however, Saint-Andre seeks what is best for him. But Gloucester? Scarcely chic or soigné, the occupants of The Shed — but that forms much of the appeal. He and his brother, Raphaël ("Buy one, get one free," the sardonic joke ran after the elder Saint-Andre was followed by his 26-year-old sibling) played for Montferrand, focal point of Clermont-Ferrand's sporting life — just as rugby is in Gloucester.

Philippe spent nine years with Montferrand, during which time they changed from a forward-dominated side to the free-flowing XV that contested the 1994 club final. Last season, when Saint-Andre was out for three months with a groin injury, they reverted to a more ponderous game and when Richard Hill, Gloucester's director of rugby, made contact last November, the time was ripe for change.

"If I wanted to continue at the highest level, I needed to play professional rugby, full time," Saint-Andre said. "It was not a question of money, but I felt that, if I wanted to stay in the France team and continue to the 1999 World Cup, I had to concentrate on rugby. I thought about England because the club championship is the best in Europe. It would offer me experience of a different culture and allow me to discover why England could beat France eight times in a row."

The man who scored one of the most glorious tries in rugby history — the end-to-end effort that graced the 1991 grand-slam decider at Twickenham — grins. The joker, who famously had one glass too many while on national service and was suspended from duty, has matured into the leader who demanded an unwonted discipline from his teams, yet still recognises that life is for living.

Hill was an opponent that day at Twickenham so, when Saint-Andre's telephone rang, there was instant recognition, allied to Hill's facility with the French language. "He has an interesting project here at Gloucester," Saint-Andre said. "Three other clubs in England contacted me and Stade Français in Paris wanted me to go there, but I did not want to go to a big city.

"I know the reputation of The Shed. They love their team and that's critical. We had them with Montferrand — *les populaires* — and we know there will be a collective effort to make sure they accept us." Already, Saint-Andre has arranged for English lessons — Raphaël, a centre or wing, speaks better English and acts as translator for himself and Sylvie, his wife, who arrived in Cheltenham last week.

"When I told her we might be moving, she was astonished and then very excited," Saint-Andre said. "She thinks she might see more of me because, in France, all the time people would ask me to do this and that."

Les frères Saint-Andres will certainly bring a finishing power the West Countrymen have lacked, experience, new training methods and, above all, that subtlety of movement — first-time movement, Saint-Andre calls it — that is characteristic of the French.

At the same time, Saint-Andre hopes that his move will not conclude his international career. Though Jean-Claude Skrela and Bernard Lapasset, coach to France and president of the French federation respectively, tried to persuade him to stay, they have not closed the door. "The truth will be seen on the pitch," he said. "International rugby is like a rich cake — once you have eaten it, you want more. I have eaten a lot, but I am not full yet."

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Philippe Saint-Andre and his brother Raphaël, right, will be working closely with the other new signings to further the Gloucester cause this season

Cooke accuses RFU of being cack-handed

By Mark Souster

AS THE Rugby Football Union (RFU) continued its milk round of clubs to find Jack Rowell's successor, with Clive Woodward and John Mitchell emerging as the leading contenders in a joint role, Geoff Cooke yesterday criticised the Twickenham hierarchy for its handling of the affair, which, he said, had made England "a laughing stock".

Cooke, who oversaw one of the most successful periods in England's rugby history before resigning as manager in 1994, having tired of the "goldfish bowl" existence, said the manner in which Rowell, his successor, had been treated was resonant of his experiences.

"It has been an absolute shambles, but doesn't surprise me at all," he said. "I think Jack has been treated appallingly and I feel very sorry for him. I don't blame him at all for sticking two fingers up to the RFU.

"I had enough of the constant back-stabbing and vendettas from certain quarters within the RFU. Nothing, it seems, has changed. They are quite quick to criticise others, but they ought to look hard at themselves and what they are doing. It is an example of the RFU at their worst, their cack-handed management of people."

He said Fran Cotton, vice-chairman of the RFU management board, had made a mistake in condemning Rowell before he had signed a deal with Ian McGeechan, who withdrew from contention for the coaching job on Monday. "He should have kept a discreet silence," Cooke said. "Now it's backfired on him and people are questioning his judgment and his ability to handle the media. These are things you find out the hard way."

Cooke, now the chief executive and director of rugby at Bedford, said he would not work for the RFU again if "it was the last job on earth". He believes that Richard Hill has the credentials to succeed Rowell but is concerned about his relative inexperience as a coach.

"But he knows what international rugby is all about," Cooke said. "He is very methodical, and is well-liked and respected, all of which are crucial. He would be high up on my list but so would Tony Russ, who did a great job at Leicester before they dumped him. However, he lacks international experience, which he may feel counts against him. Clive Woodward is ambitious enough to do the job but I don't think he would be right."

The one solace for Cooke is that, whoever takes over will inherit a strong international squad, which will be tested this autumn against New Zealand, South Africa and Australia. During Cooke's seven-year tenure, England won 33 of 47 internationals, two grand slams and reached the World Cup final.

Cooke said an Englishman should be at the helm. "There has always got to be a bit of passion and heart in the thing," he said. "I am not against having the odd mercenary providing specialised support but I think an Englishman should coach England."

A decision on a successor is due on Friday when the RFU management board meets to consider recommendations from the national playing committee. Woodward, who has had meetings with Bill Beaumont, the committee's chairman, and Don Rutherford, the director of rugby, is regarded as something of a free spirit, but Mitchell, as the forwards' coach, and Roger Uttley, who is expected to be named as manager, would be more than adequate foils. Where that would leave Mike Slemen and Les Cusworth remains to be seen.

RUGBY LEAGUE: SCHOOLBOY BLOODED INTO FIRST TEAM

Leeds give Sinfield chance at 16

By Christopher Irvine

KEVIN SINFIELD, one of the most fought-over schoolboy international players for years, was expected to make his debut last night for Leeds Rhinos, at the age of 16. Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League (RFL) chief executive, named the young loose forward when he tackled the Government about the national academy of sporting excellence.

At the start of the week, rugby league found itself excluded from the National Lottery-backed £100-million academy because it was a commercial team sport. By Thursday, it was confirmed that rugby league would be given access to the academy's sports science, sports medicine, psychological and nutritional advice facilities.

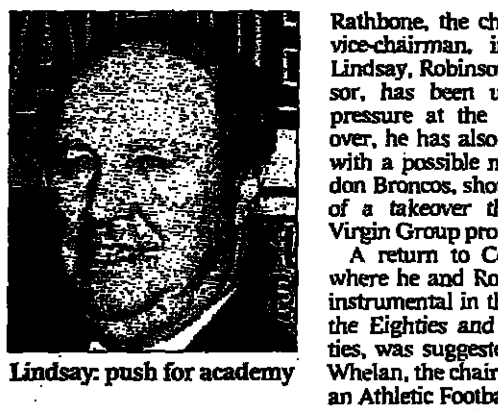
Lindsay told Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport: "Andy Farrell is a young player who has made it to the top of the game at Wigan and became Great Britain captain at an early age. How much further could he have developed with the national academy at his disposal? It is important that up-and-coming talents like Kevin Sinfield are not denied this opportunity."

Don Preston, the England schools coach, described Sinfield as the best player at under-16 level he had seen, including Ellery Hanley and Garry Schofield. John Kear, the former RFL technical director, said he had not seen a player so young quite so talented, which explained the clamour to sign up the Oldham schoolboy.

Leeds have not always been the most alert talent spotters. Jason Robinson was rejected at Headingley and the player, who became a Great Britain wing, fell into Wigan's lap. Sinfield was one of four of last season's England schools team picked up by Leeds. Before Sinfield joined them in April, Dean Bell, the Leeds coach, saw him score three tries and land seven goals from as many attempts in a defeat of France under-16s.

Since he arrived at Leeds, Sinfield has helped the club to win the Alliance and Academy championships. Bell said: "I have been monitoring his progress. He came with a big reputation and I have been keen not to rush him. He has been developing well in the Academy side and he has progressed into the Alliance team.

"As it is coming to the end of the season, I thought that I would give him a taste of first-team rugby. It will give him something to aspire to and I don't think it will do him any harm. In fact, I think it will do him the world of good."



Lindsay: push for academy

Before his debut against Sheffield Eagles at home last night, Sinfield said: "I should have been playing for Lancashire Academy but Dean withdrew me from the squad and asked me to train with the first team. I didn't expect to be in the team for a long time yet. I have to keep pinching myself."

Meanwhile, Lindsay is wanted back at the troubled Wigan club, where an RFL team, including Roy Waudby, the financial director, Tony Eagleton, the financial executive, and Ronnie Teeman, a solicitor, is trying to unpick the mess after the resignations of Jack Robinson and Tom Rathbone, the chairman and vice-chairman, in midweek. Lindsay, Robinson's predecessor, has been under heavy pressure at the RFL. Moreover, he has also been linked with a possible move to London Broncos, should rumours of a takeover there by the Virgin Group prove to be true.

A return to Central Park, where he and Robinson were instrumental in the success of the Eighties and early Nineties, was suggested by David Whelan, the chairman of Wigan Athletic Football Club.

Whelan's call for a chairman whom supporters can respond to was issued as he reiterated his determination not to talk with Wigan about sharing a planned new ground in the town with the football club until Arthur Thomas, the third signatory to a controversial £12-million deal to sell Central Park to the Tesco supermarket chain, follows Robinson and Rathbone in leaving the club.

An olive branch by Thomas, who stepped into the chairman's role and invited peace talks, was spurned by Whelan. "Once all three directors are gone, we can start talking," he said. "I don't want to take over the club, but I believe that a deal could be done to keep Wigan in the borough of Wigan."

FOOTBALL

Coultard the first to win 100 caps

GILLIAN COULTARD today becomes the first England women's footballer to win 100 caps when she plays against Scotland at Livingston FC (Sarah Forde writes).

Coultard, 34, made her debut 16 years ago against Ireland. A tenacious midfield player, she has since scored 25 goals for her country, including the first women's international goal at Wembley.

Her football career began 23 years ago, when she joined Doncaster Belles, her local club and the one that she still plays for. Coultard soon became a regular for both club and country, at her peak helping Doncaster to become the dominant team in England during the late 1980s and the early 1990s.

It is likely that England will celebrate Coultard's achievement with a victory. They beat Scotland 6-0 at Bramall Lane in March, and in 12 meetings between the sides since 1972, England have won 11 and lost one.

RUGBY UNION

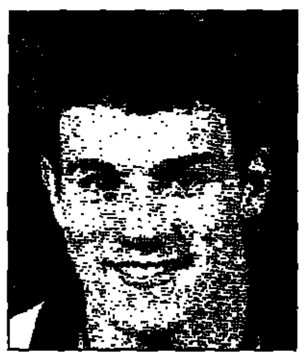
Newcastle's hopes high against weakened Bath

By David Hands
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THERE will never be a better time, you might think, for Newcastle to begin their career in the Allied Dunbar Premiership. Even though they must visit the Bath Recreation ground today, where success is given to few opponents, Bath have been so ravaged by injuries that nearly a complete international team is absent.

The five backs and four forwards on the casualty list might yet find Jonathan Callard joining them. The England full back must undergo a fitness test this morning and should he withdraw, Matt Perry is likely to occupy the No 16 shirt and another youngster, Jonathan Pritchard, will join the international midfield of Phil de Glanville and Mike Catt.

With Ieuan Evans absent on honeymoon and Mark Regan, Nathan Thomas and David Hilton confined to the replacements, it is Newcastle's chance to make hay. They will field a dozen internationals from five countries, among them Tim Stimpson who has been handed the goalkicking duties that he fulfilled so effectively for the British Isles in South Africa during the summer.



Stimpson: big season

This is the season for Stimpson, and Newcastle, to blossom and the young full back will hope to show that his vision as a footballer has matured.

Should Newcastle begin with a win, the other promoted team, Richmond, will hope to match them at the expense of London Irish. They have advertised their opening match locally as a family day and hope for a 6,000 crowd, but family values may be notably absent on the field as these near-neighbours need to make the best of starts in what may be a fraught campaign. Agustin Pichot, Richmond's Argentina scrum half, is injured but his colleague, Rolando Martin, and the former Neath hooker, Barry Williams, make their premiership debuts.

Johnny Ngauamo, Tonga's captain, will be paired with Will Carling in the centre for Harlequins, visitors to Northampton where Gregor Townsend now says he will play at centre as and when required.

Before the second weekend of Welsh League action, Swansea have lost Steve Moore, the lock selected by Wales to win his second cap against Romania at Wrexham next Saturday. Moore, 25, has declined to sign a new contract and may confirm a move to Moseley but, on the credit side, Scott Gibbs makes his first appearance of the season at St Helen's against Newport, who have ten players unavailable through injury.

Steve Williams makes his debut in Cardiff's back row against Neath, his former club, but Llanelli have withdrawn Wayne Proctor from the meeting with Bridgend. Proctor has a dead leg.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today

CRICKET

Sixth Cornhill Test match

11.0, third day of five, 90 overs minimum

THE OVAL: England v Australia

Britannic Assurance county championship

11.0, final day of four, 96 overs minimum

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Middlesex
ABERGAVENNY: Glamorgan v Northamptonshire
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Derbyshire
WORKSOP: Nottinghamshire v Essex
TAUNTON: Somerset v Kent
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Worcestershire

NATWEST UNDER-19 INTERNATIONAL MATCH (third day of four): Northampton: England v Zimbabwe.

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Ebbw Vale (2.0); Caersws v Welshpool; Cemaes Ynys Mon v Aberystwyth; Connah's Quay v Barry; Haverfordwest v Total Net Solutions; Inter Cable-Tel v Conwy; Newtown v Caernarfon; Porthmadog v Carmarthen Town; Rhayader Town v Flint Town; Rhyl v Cwmbran.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cliftonville v Ards; Coleraine v Portadown; Crusaders v Ballymena; Glenavon v Glentoran; Linfield v Omagh.

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE CUP: Section A: Kilkenny v Cobh Ramblers (7.30). Section B: Derry v Finn Harps (7.30) Section D: Longford v Dundalk (7.30).

ULSTER FIRST DIVISION CUP: First round, first leg: Ballyclare v Distillery; Carrick v Bangor; Dungannon Swifts v Larne; Newry v Limavady Utd

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Beckenham v Folkestone Invicta; Canterbury v Erith; Chatham v Whitstable Town; Corinthian v Cray; Deal v Swanley Furness; Greenwich v Sheppey; Herne Bay v Faversham; Hythe v Thamesmead; Lordswood v VCD; Ramsgate v Crockenhill; Tunbridge Wells v Slade Green

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Backwell v Taunton; Bideford v Bridgwater; Brislington v Chippenham; Bristol Manor Farm v Bridport; Chard v Elmore; Melksham v Mangotsfield Utd; Odd Down v Keynsham; Paulton R v Calne; Tiverton v Barnstaple; Westbury v Torrington.

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division south: Barkingside v Brimsdown; Beaconsfield v Haringey Boro; Cockfosters v Amersham; Hanwell v Woodford; Harefield v Waltham Abbey; Islington v Brook House; Ruislip Manor v Hillingdon Boro. Premier division north: Buckingham Athletic v Hoddesdon; Royston v Langford; London Colney v Harpenden; Milton Keynes v Bedford; Potters Bar v Arlesey Town; Toddington v Letchworth; Welwyn Garden v Brache Sparta.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Tottenham (11.0); Charlton v West Ham (11.0); Crystal Palace v Leyton Orient (11.0); Ipswich v Portsmouth (11.30); Norwich v Fulham (11.0); Queens Park Rangers v Gillingham (11.0); Southend v Millwall (11.0); Watford v Cambridge Utd (11.0). Second division: Barnet v Brentford (11.0); Bristol City v Brighton (11.0); Bristol Rovers v Colchester Utd (12.0); Oxford Utd v Southampton (11.0); Swindon v Luton (11.0); Tottenham v Bournemouth (11.0); Wimbledon v Reading (11.0).

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bolehill Swifts v Wellesbourne; Cheslyn Hay v Massey Ferguson; Continental Star v Alvechurch; David Lloyd AFC v Bilston Community College; Handrahan Timbers v GPT (Coventry); Kenilworth v Dudley Sports; King's Heath v Coventry Sphinx; Meir KA v Highgate; Southam v Knowle; Worcester v Coleshill.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon v Tuffley; Banbury v Didcot; Carterton v Burnham; Hallen v Highworth; Harrow Hill v Almondsbury; Kintbury v Bicester; Shortwood v Fairford; Swindon Supermarine v Endsleigh; Wantage v North Leigh.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Buckie Thistle v Huntly; Forres Mechanics v Peterhead; Fort William v Rothes; Lossiemouth v Clachnacuddin; Nairn County v Wick Academy.

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Tennents Cup: Cove v Fraserburgh; Elgin v Brora.

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash v Merstham; Bedfont v Godalming and Guildford; Chipstead v Cobham; Cranleigh v Chessington and Hook; Netherne v Hartley Wintney; Raynes Park Vale v Cove; Reading Town v Feltham; Sandhurst v Walton Casuals; Viking Sports v Farnham; Westfield v Ashford.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton Collieries v Blackpool Rovers; Chadderton v Newcastle Town; Haslingden v Ramsbottom; Kidsgrove v Holker Old Boys; Mossley v Burscough; Nantwich Town v St Helens; Prescot Cables v Maine Road; Rossendale v Glossop North End; Salford v Atherton LR; Vauxhall GM v Clitheroe.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Bowers v Southend Manor; Burnham Ramblers v Saffron Walden; East Ham v Concord Rangers; Great Wakering v Eton Manor; Ilford v Hullbridge Sports; Sawbridgeworth v Brentwood; Stansted v Basildon U.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Brierley Hill T v Darlaston; Bustleholme v Lye Town; Cradley Town v Stafford T; Gornal A v Tividale; Kington Town v Wolverhampton C; Ludlow T v Bloxwich S; Malvern T v Walsall Wood; Stourport S v Wolverhampton.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bury Town v Harwich and Parkeston; Ely v Diss; Fakenham v Sudbury; Felixstowe Port and v Walton, Gorleston v Warboys; Halstead v Great Yarmouth; Histon v Woodbridge Town; Lowestoft v Soham; Stowmarket v Clacton; Sudbury v Newmarket; Wroxham v Tiptree.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: AFC Newbury v Andover; Totton v Wimborne; Aerostructures v Portsmouth; Bournemouth v Bemerton Heath; Brockenhurst v BAT; Downton v Christchurch; East Cowes v Eastleigh; Gosport v Lymington; Romsey v Thatcham Town; Ryde Sports v Cowes Sports

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Eynesbury v Stamford; Ford Sports v Boston; Holbeach v Northampton Spencer; Kempston v Bourne; Long Buckby v Yaxley; Mirrlees Blackstone v Stotfold; St Neots v Wellingborough; Spalding v Buckingham; S and L Corby v Potton; Wootton v Cogenhoe

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Eastbourne Town; Hailsham v Chichester; Hassocks v Saltdean; Peacehaven and Telscombe v Horsham YMCA; Portfield v Burgess Hill; Ringmer v Littlehampton; Selsey v Mile Oak; Shoreham v Redhill; Whitehawk v Pagham; Wick v Langney Sports.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Barwell v Willenhall; Bloxwich Town v Halesowen H; Boldmere St M v Shifnal T; Chasetown v Rushall O; Oldbury v Wednesfield; Pelsall V v Sandwell; Pershore T v Knypersley V; Rocester v King's Norton; Stapenhill v Bridgnorth; W Mid Police v Stratford T

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Denaby v Pontefract Cols; Glasshoughton Welfare v Maltby MW; Hatfield Main v Curzon Ashton; Hucknall Town v Sheffield; Liversedge v Pickering; North Ferriby v Ossett Albion; Ossett Town v Brigg Town; Selby v Eccleshill; Thackley v Armthorpe Welfare.

RUGBY UNION

Inter-provincial championships

Connacht v Ulster
(at Sports Ground, Galway, 2.30)
Munster v Leinster
(at Musgrave Park, Cork, 2.30)

Allied Dunbar Premiership
First division

Bath v Newcastle (2.15)
Gloucester v Bristol (3.0)
Northampton v Harlequins (3.0)
Richmond v London Irish (3.0)

Welsh League
Premier division

Bridgend v Llanelli (2.0)
Neath v Cardiff (8.0)
Pontypridd v Ebbw Vale (2.0)
Swansea v Newport (6.0)

First division

Abertillery v Maesteg (2.0)
Caerphilly v Blackwood (2.0)
Dunvant v Cardiff Institute (2.0)
Llandovery v Cross Keys (2.0)
Pontypool v Bonymaen (2.0)
Rumney v South Wales Police (2.0)

Club matches

Fylde v Sale (3.0)
Havant v Maidenhead (3.0)
High Wycombe v London Welsh (3.0)
Moseley v Liverpool St Helens (3.0)
Nottingham v Burton (3.0)
Redruth v Penzance (6.0)
Sheffield v Henley (12.0)
West Hartlepool v Glasgow (3.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 2.30

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Beverley v Mayfield (at Hull Kingston Rovers); Heworth v Lock Lane; Leigh Miners v Dudley Hill; Saddleworth v West Hull; Walney Central v Oldham St Anne's; Wigan St Patrick's v Egremont; Woolston v Askam. First division: Blackbrook v Millord; Eastmoor v Barrow Island; Millom v Redhill; Moldgreen v Wigan St Jude's; Oulton v Leigh East; Skirlaugh v East Leeds; Thornhill v Shew Cross. Second division: Dewsbury Moor v New Earswick; Eccles v Siddal; London Students v Crosfields; Normanton v Featherstone Amateur Ovenden v Dodworth; York Acorn v Hull Dockers

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: All-England championships (in Worthing). Atlantic Rim world championship (in Llandrindod Wells)

CYCLING: RTTC national time-trial series (50km, Hamsterley, Co Durham, 2.0)

GOLF: Smurfit European Open (at K Club, Co Kildare), PGA Seniors championship (at The Belfry); British women's amateur strokeplay championship (at Silloth)

HOCKEY: East Grinstead centenary festival (at Saint Hill, 10.30)

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Bradford v Swindon (7.30). Coventry v Poole (7.30); Eastbourne v Ipswich (7.30) Premier League: Berwick v Stoke (6.30) Amateur League: Berwick v Burton (8.0)

Tomorrow

FOOTBALL

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE CUP: Section A: Cork v Waterford (2.0) Section B: Fanad v Sligo (3.0) Section C: Limerick v Mervue United (2.0) Section E: Home Farm v St Francis (3.0) Section F: Bohemians v Bray (3.15); UCD v St Patrick's Ath (3.15).

FA YOUTH CUP: Preliminary round: Thame v Weymouth (3.0)

CRICKET

Sixth Cornhill Test match

11.0, fourth day of five, 90 overs minimum

THE OVAL: England v Australia

Axa Life League

2.0, 40 overs

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Middlesex
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Northamptonshire
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Lancashire
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Derbyshire
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Essex
TAUNTON: Somerset v Kent
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Warwickshire
SCARBOROUGH: Yorkshire v Sussex

NATWEST UNDER-19 INTERNATIONAL MATCH (final day of four) Northampton: England v Zimbabwe

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of two) Wardown Park: Bedfordshire v Buckinghamshire. Dean Park, Bournemouth: Dorset v Devon. Trowbridge: Wiltshire v Shropshire.

RUGBY UNION

Allied Dunbar Premiership
First division

Sale v Saracens (3.0)

Welsh League
First division

Treorchy v Aberavon (2.0)

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: AAA championships (at Birmingham)

BOWLS: All-England championships (in Worthing): Atlantic Rim world championship (in Llandrindod Wells).

CYCLING: National criterium championship (72km, Bury St Edmunds, 3.0) Tamworth Castle (two-day, stage one, 65 miles, Shuttington, 10.30am).

GOLF: Smurfit European Open (at K Club, Co Kildare), PGA Seniors championship (at The Belfry); British women's amateur strokeplay championship (at Silloth)

HOCKEY: East Grinstead centenary festival (at Saint Hill, 10.30)

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Glasgow v Newcastle (6.30), Newport v Reading (2.30), Oxford v Arena Essex (6.30); Oxford v Berwick (8.0) Amateur League: Linlithgow v Buxton (2.30)

Crowds flock to see one of motor racing's greatest challenges in practice for Belgian Grand Prix

Torrent of danger backs drivers into a corner

MICHAEL CALVIN

At Spa Francorchamps

The noise grew in intensity until the eardrums ached, and Michael Schumacher plunged into Eau Rouge at 180mph. His Ferrari was floating on surface water, which ran downhill towards the car, and twitching malevolently. A small, almost imperceptible movement of his head signalled he was fighting for control yet, through the spray, he aimed for the tip of the tallest pine tree on the horizon.

As he disappeared over the blind brow here yesterday afternoon, a red tail-light winking through the gloom, the crowd was strangely silent. They were awe-struck. Their pilgrimage to the corner where testosterone meets adrenalin had been rewarded. They had been reminded of the essence of Formula One, a sport in danger of being emasculated by the conventions of political correctness.

Ayrton Senna, whose death resulted in the neutering of many circuits, called Spa, venue for the Belgian Grand Prix tomorrow, "the university of Formula One". Eau Rouge is the site of its masterclass.

Jacques Villeneuve consciously catches his breath there. Damon Hill suppresses the eerie sensation that he is about to bury himself beneath the Ardennes forest. Even Schumacher has to ignore instincts that implore him to reduce the pressure applied on the accelerator by his right foot.

> 'You have to go through a barrier that is mental as well as physical'

It is a rare reality check, at a time when the paddock is preoccupied by the political machinations of the silly season. The ceaseless chatter about contracts and cash, alliances and aggravation, is put into context by the challenge that it represents. It allows cynics to regress into their childhood without a cataclysmic loss of street credibility. In the words of Tom Walkinshaw, the TWR Arrows team owner, "it's the last real man's corner left in Formula One".

The cars accelerate out of La Source, a right-hand hairpin, shaving the barriers as they accelerate downhill, past the old pit lane. The bravest drivers reach 180mph by the time they cross the bridge that spans the red-tinged stream, which gives the corner its name. They flick their cars left, and then right, towards an intimidating wall of Tarmac that appears to stretch to infinity. The car bottoms out just as the driver is being assaulted by G-forces that approach four times his own body weight.

His helmet feels unbearably heavy. His vision is blurred. His shoulders are bruised, his neck is compressed. He is dimly aware of sparks, coming from the underside of the chassis, but is too busy trying to stop the car from slewing sideways to care. "You feel as if you are just going to keep going down, down, down," Hill explained. "I'm not in Formula One for the danger — in fact I'd be quite happy if we were divorced from the macho stuff — but there is something addictive in the sensation of going flat out through Eau Rouge. Deep down, getting something special out of yourself is what we all do this for."

Yet the job is only half-done at the fold in the valley overlooked by an old hotel, which, in a concession to the commercial realities that shaped Formula One, has been colonised for the weekend by the corporate-hospitality hordes. The car climbs 300 feet in a fraction of a second, when the driver is wrestling with the wheel and a warped sense of perspective. "You really have to push yourself as a human being to take Eau Rouge quickly in the wet," Villeneuve said. "It seems impossible, but you have to make the conscious decision to do it.

"You have to break through a barrier that is mental, as well as physical. It seems like you're climbing into the sky. Even if you feel on the verge of disaster, you have to imagine your right foot is bolted to the floor and you can't lift it off. You hang in there, getting more and more tense. You stop breathing.

"You feel as if you are absolutely on the ragged edge and are lucky to make it through. It depends on instinct and blind faith in your capabilities."

There are surprisingly few serious accidents, although the Italian driver, Alex Zanardi, champion-elect in the Indycar series this season, was fortunate to survive a momentous crash in a Lotus in 1993. He ploughed straight on, instead of negotiating the final left-hand kink at the crest. Failure of the pressurised active suspension system left him a passenger. The deceleration was so violent that it stretched his safety harness and resulted in him butting the steering wheel.

"I have two black-and-white pictures of the crash fixed in my memory," he said. "One is of people trying to rescue me and the other, quite amazing, is of me with my head a couple of centimetres from the wall. That must have been after the first impact, because I had nothing left on the left side of the car. The front and rear tyres had been ripped off, along with the suspension, and the sidepod was gone. I'm lucky to be able to talk about it."

The corner encourages humility, an awareness of history. Johnny Herbert, with good reason, characterises Eau Rouge as "the biggest test of skill in Formula One". Alan Jenkins, the designer of the first Stewart-Ford, describedit as "one of those great motor-racing places where history is engraved on the Tarmac". His driver, Rubens Barrichello, climbed out of the car yesterday, having taken fourth place in free practice, and summed up the experience in a single word. "Fantastic".

Hill, whom he relegated to fifth on the provisional grid, was similarly wide-eyed. "With 22 of us hammering towards Eau Rouge, we'll be able to see nothing," he predicted. "Even out there on my own, I had it sideways and nearly into the barrier. It's scary.

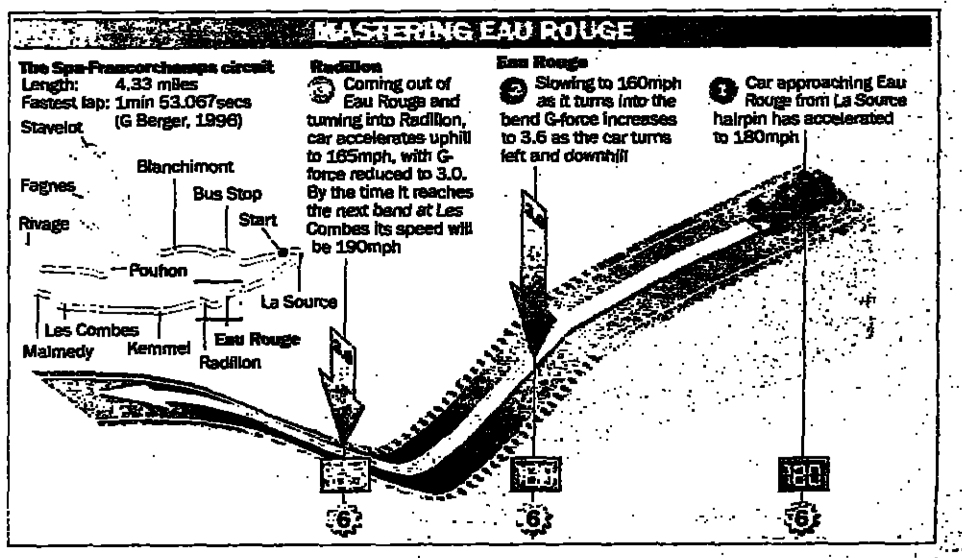
"In those conditions all you can do is to grit your teeth with a flood of water coming towards you. It's travelling at 15mph and you're travelling at 175mph in the other direction, so you start aquaplaning. It's just so treacherous. In those conditions, all you can do is grit your teeth and concentrate like hell."

But it is Schumacher to whom everyone defers in such circumstances. He has won three times at Spa in the past five years and regards the circuit as his spiritual home.

"Many people ask me why I do what I do," he said. "This gives me all the answers. It is a true driver's circuit, on which you can express yourself. I look forward to coming here every year. Every time I go through Eau Rouge, it gives me a special feeling. A feeling like no other."

Cars battle through the spray during the first free practice at Spa-Francorchamps yesterday. Photograph: Mike Cooper / Allsport

MASTERING EAU ROUGE


The Spa-Francorchamps circuit
Length: 4.33 miles
Fastest lap: 1min 53.067secs (G Berger, 1996)
Stavelot
Blanchimont
Fagnes
Bus Stop
Start
Rivage
Pouhon
La Source
Les Combes
Malmedy
Kemmel
Eau Rouge
Radillon
Radillon
③ Coming out of Eau Rouge and turning into Radillon, car accelerates uphill to 165mph, with G-force reduced to 3.0. By the time it reaches the next band at Les Combes its speed will be 190mph
Eau Rouge
② Slowing to 160mph as it turns into the bend G-force increases to 3.6 as the car turns left and downhill
① Car approaching Eau Rouge from La Source hairpin has accelerated to 180mph
6
6
6

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS DETAILS

PRACTICE TIMES: 1, G Berger (Austria, Benetton-Renault) 2min 6.802sec; 2, J Alesi (Fr, Benetton-Renault) 2:07.371; 3, R Barrichello (Br, Stewart-Ford) 2:08.238; 4, D Hill (GB, Arrows-Yamaha) 2:08.372; 5, M Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 2:08.272; 6, D Coulthard (GB, McLaren-Mercedes) 2:09.288; 7, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Petronas) 2.09.772; 8, J Trulli (It, Prost Mugen-Honda) 2:09.772; 9, P Diniz (Br, Arrows-Yamaha) 2:10.153; 10, U Katayama (Japan, Minardi-Hart) 2:10.231; 11, S Nakano (Japan, Prost Mugen-Honda) 2:10.272; 12, M Hakkinen (Fin, McLaren-Mercedes) 2:10.413; 13, H-H Frentzen (Ger, Williams-Renault) 2:10.914; 14, E Irvine (GB, Ferrari) 2.10.993; 15, G Fisichella (It, Jordan-Peugeot) 2:11.093; 16, G Morbidelli (It, Sauber-Petronas) 2:11.262; 17, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) 2:11.709; 18, T Marques (Br, Minardi-Hart) 2:11.778; 19, J Magnussen (Den, Stewart-Ford) 2:12.545; 20, R Schumacher (Ger, Jordan-Peugeot) 2:12.750; 21, M Salo (Fin, Tyrrell-Ford) 2:13.256; 22, J-Verstappen (Hol, Tyrrell-Ford) 2:14.048.

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS (after eleven races): Drivers: 1, M Schumacher 56pts, 2, Villeneuve 53; 3, Alesi 22; 4, Berger 20; 5, Frentzen 19; 6, Irvine 18; 7, O Panis (Fr, Prost Mugen-Honda) 15; 8 equal, Coulthard and Hakkinen 14; 10 equal, Herbert and R Schumacher 11; 12, Fisichella 8; 13, Hill 7; 14, Barrichello 6; 15, A Wurz (Austria, Benetton-Renault) 4; 16, Trulli 3; 17, Salo 2; 18 equal, N Larini (It, Sauber-Petronas) and Nakano 1. Constructors: 1, Ferrari 74pts; 2, Williams-Renault 72; 3, Benetton-Renault 46; 4, McLaren-Mercedes 28; 5, Prost Mugen-Honda 20; 6, Jordan-Peugeot 19; 7, Sauber-Petronas 12; 8, Arrows-Yamaha 7; 9, Stewart-Ford 6; 10, Tyrrell-Ford 2.

GRANDS PRIX TO COME: Tomorrow: Belgian (Spa-Francorchamps) Sept 7: Italian (Monza). Sept 21: Austrian (A-1 Ring) Sept 28: Luxembourg (Nürburgring). Oct 12: Japanese (Suzuka). Oct 26: European (Jerez).

CARTMEL

THUNDERER
2.25 Nosam. 2.55 Skane River. 3.30 Royal Vacation.
4.05 Kernof. 4.35 Yubralee. 5.05 Brighstone.

GOING GOOD SIS

2.25 CARLING BLACK LABEL NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,250: 2m 6f) (4 runners)

1 2-11 CHOCOLATE ICE 11 (F) J O'Shea 4-11-9 Michael Brennan (3)
2 61- NOSAM 89 (CD,F) N Mason 7-11-6 R Guest
3 00 FRIENDLY BREEZE 11 Mrs S Smith 5-10-7 R Wilkinson (5)
4 -226 SEA TARTH 33 (G) P Bowen 6-10-7 N Williamson

5-4 Sea Tarth, 7-4 Nosam, 3-1 Chocolate Ice, 25-1 Friendly Breeze

2.55 CALDERPRINT SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(Conditional jockeys: £2,192: 2m 6f) (7)

1 4641 FRONTIER FLIGHT 11 (F,G) [illegible] 7-12-0 E Husband
2 413F DANTES AMOUR 79 M Hammond 8-11-7 N Horrocks (3)
3 -232 LANDLORD 7 (B) P Bowen 5-11-4 Michael Brennan
4 142- SKANE RIVER 91 (G) G Richards 8-10-13 R Burns (5)
5 255- BARNSTORMER 37 (B,F,G) [illegible] D Parker
6 060- SALEM BEACH 105 M Todhunter 5-10-7 C McCormack (3)
7 -P24 MEADOWLECK 40 W Young 8-10-0 S Taylor

[illegible]

3.30 CHAS KENDALL HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,762: 3m 2f) (3)

1 U-P0 BAS DE LAINE 29 (V,F,G,S) [illegible] R Garritty
2 040- ROYAL VACATION 91 (CD,F,G) [illegible] J Callaghan
3 11-4 SLOTAMATIQUE 78 (V,BF,CD,F,G,S) G Richards 8-10-2 A Dobbin

6-5 [illegible] 7-4 Bas de Laine, 11-4 Royal Vacation

4.05 SUNLIGHT SERVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,784: 2m 1f 110yd) (4)

1 -1P1 MR MORIARTY 28 (F,G,S) S Bowring 6-11-10 R Johnson
2 21-4 HIGHLAND WAY 79 (C,F,G) M Todhunter 9-10-8 C McCormack (7)
3 21P- KERNOF 10F (D,F) M Hammond 4-10-7 R Dunwoody
4 6121 SHIFTING MOON 6 (D,F) F Jordan 5-10-2 A P McCoy

7-4 Kernof, 5-2 Shifting Moon, 3-1 Mr Moriarty, 4-1 Highland Way

4.35 GRANT THORNTON NOVICES CHASE
(£3,014: 2m 1f 110yd) (5)

1 -111 YUBRALEE 6 (D,F,G,S) M Pipe 5-12-2 A P McCoy
2 P/P- ANOTHER MEADOW 101 J Dixon 8-10-12 B Storey
3 5P-3 CUBAN SKIES 6 R Juckes 7-10-12 Gary Lyons
4 -212 FURIETTO 7 (F,G) M Hammond 7-10-12 DOUBTFUL
5 P-34 MOVING FORCE 3 (F,G) P Bowen 10-10-12 R Johnson

1-5 Yubralee, 6-1 Moving Force, 10-1 Cuban Skies, 25-1 Another Meadow

5.05 LADBROKES NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,215: 2m 1f 110yd) (4)

1 3 BERNARD SEVEN 10F [illegible] N Williamson
2 BRIGHSTONE 12F M Pipe 4-10-8 A P McCoy
3 40-2 DIG FOR GOLD 21 Miss S Hall 4-10-6 N Bentley
4 0GP- HIGH CELLESTE 122 M Todhunter 6-10-7 C McCormack (7)

8-13 Brighstone, 3-1 Dig For Gold, 9-2 Bernard Seven, 16-1 High Celleste

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Moore, 6 winners from 12 runners, 50.0%; M Pipe, 4 from 8, 50.0%; P Bowen, 4 from 8, 50.0%; Mrs S Smith, 5 from 16, 31.3%; G Richards, 8 from 29, [illegible]; M Hammond, 4 from 33, 12.1%.

JOCKEYS: R Johnson, 7 winners from 12 rides, [illegible]; R Guest, 9 from 18, 50.0%; N Bentley, 3 from 6, 50.0%; A P McCoy, [illegible] 40.0%; A Dobbin, 11 from 30, 36.7%; R Dunwoody, 5 from 13, [illegible]; B Storey, 5 from 39, 12.8%.

WINDSOR

THUNDERER
5.20 Impulsive Decision. 5.45 Blue Shadow. 6.15 King Sound. 6.45 Fahris. 7.15 Pomona. 7.45 Queen's Insignia.

GOING GOOD SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

5.20 GREAT CHARTER SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,738: 5f 217yd) (15 runners)

1 0 CELTIC VENTURE 16 [illegible] Candy Morris 12
2 0030 CLEAR VIEW 12 (B) [illegible] M Tebbutt 15
3 4550 THE HOBBY LOBBY 15 [illegible] N Adams 6
4 4530 GALLIRAM 3 (V) [illegible] D Sweeney (3) 13
5 25 FIRST IDEA 18 S Dow 8-6 [illegible] 8
6 04 IMPULSIVE DECISION 21 [illegible] F Norton 9
7 0F24 JAYBEE SILVER 17 (BF) [illegible] D Biggs 1
8 600 JILVARRA 8 [illegible] S Carson (7) 10
9 0 MARGOT'S PET 15 [illegible] P P Murphy (3) 4
10 50 [illegible] 11
11 0 RITA'S ROCK APE 35 R Brotherton [illegible] R Price 3
12 0422 ROSEWOOD LADY 57 (V) [illegible] G Duffield 14
13 2604 SILENT PRIDE 9 [illegible] 5
14 0605 SIPPING SODA 4 (V) [illegible] C Cassidy (7) 7
15 600 WAYTOGOMO 10 (B) [illegible] A Whelan (3) 2

11-4 Impulsive Decision, 9-2 Rosewood Lady, 11-2 Silent Pride, 10-1 others

5.45 E B F MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,144: 5f 217yd) (16)

1 ACADEMY A Turnell 9-0 N Adams 11
2 030 BLUE SHADOW 75 (B) R Hannon 9-0 W J O'Connor 12
3 FINAL SETTLEMENT [illegible] A Whelan (3) 7
4 60 FRITTON 21 M Tompkins 9-0 D Biggs 16
5 60 HOLY WINE 17 [illegible] R Cochrane 4
6 JOLLYHACK [illegible] 10
7 MAIN STREET [illegible] F Lynch 3
8 THE MAGISTRATE [illegible] P P Murphy (3) 9
9 THIRD COUSIN [illegible] A Clark 15
10 0 ZINZIE 40 [illegible] (7) 5
11 5 ARBENIG 17 [illegible] D Sweeney (3) 8
12 50 BELLE DE NUIT 11 [illegible] M Tebbutt 1
13 CARMITHIA [illegible] G Duffield 5
14 CARLASANTA [illegible] D Griffiths (3) 13
15 50 CHAYANEE'S ARENA 42 [illegible] R Price 2
16 NESALA [illegible] F Norton 14

[illegible] Holy Wine, [illegible] Blue Shadow, [illegible] Belle De Nuit, 5-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: S bin Suroor, [illegible]; E Dunlop, 3 from 6 [illegible]; H Cecil, 11 from 35, [illegible]; M Stoute, 11 from 49, 22.4%.

JOCKEYS: K Fallon, [illegible]; L Dettori, 31 from 140, 22.1%; J Reid, 29 from [illegible]; W Ryan, 9 from 58, 15.5%.

6.15 HAREFIELD CONDITIONS STAKES
SKY
(£4,765: 1m 3f 135yd) (4)

1 -403 CAPTAIN HORATIUS 36 (D,F) J Dunlop [illegible] R Cochrane 2
2 4-25 [illegible] 61 (G,S) [illegible] S Sanders 3
3 3-21 HALTARRA 71 (G) S bin Suroor [illegible] J Reid 1
4 3-34 KING SOUND 25 (F) J Gosden [illegible] L Dettori 4

5-4 Haltarra, 2-1 Captain Horatius, 7-2 King Sound, 10-1 [illegible]

6.45 WINTER HILL STAKES
SKY
(Group III: £18,840: 1m 2f 7yd) (4)

1 1-31 ANNUS MIRABILIS 15 (V,CD,F,G,S) S bin Suroor 5-9-5 L Dettori 3
2 0343 EVEN TOP 33 (F,G) M Tompkins 4-9-0 J Reid 1
3 1523 FAHRIS 14 (F) B Hanbury 3-8-6 R Hills 4
4 1414 GHATAAS 35 (G,S) J Dunlop 3-8-6 R Cochrane 2

7-4 Fahris, 2-1 Annus Mirabilis, 9-4 Even Top, 10-1 Ghataas

7.15 EGHAM RATED HANDICAP
SKY
(£4,761: 1m) (11)

1 -400 WEST HUMBLE 59 (F) Miss B Sanders [illegible] A Clark 2
2 621- GLEN PARKER 370 (G) [illegible] K Fallon 5
3 4521 BRIGHT HERITAGE 15 (D,F) [illegible] L Dettori 9
4 3305 POMONA 43 (D,G) P Makin [illegible] R Cochrane 1
5 9612 VALTA 15 (B,D,F) R Charlton [illegible] S Sanders 3
6 0-01 ALPHABET 19 (CD,G) M Stoute [illegible] J Reid 7
7 1-00 SHEER FOLLY 56 (F) P Cole [illegible] A McGlone 5
8 2221 THERHEA 10 (BF,D,G,S) [illegible] A Whelan (3) 4
9 1500 AUTUMN COVER 25 (D,F,G) P Hedger [illegible] G Hind 10
10 3112 WISHING STONE 24 (CD,F,G) [illegible] W Ryan 5
11 0504 ADMIRALS PLACE 37 (CD,F,S) [illegible] G Duffield 11

3-1 Wishing Stone, [illegible] Bright Heritage, 5-1 Alphabet, [illegible]

7.45 BAILEYS ORIGINAL IRISH CREAM FILLIES HANDICAP
SKY
(£3,622: 1m 67yd) (18)

1 [illegible] LITERARY 19 J Gosden [illegible] L Dettori 6
2 [illegible] KRISTAL BRIDGE 15 P Harris [illegible] C Lowther (5) 9
3 4103 SCARLET CRESCENT 37 (D,F,G) [illegible] R Cochrane 10
4 2356 BLOWING AWAY 24 [illegible] D Biggs 14
5 0015 [illegible] GARDEN 17 (D,F,S) [illegible] D O'Donohoe (3) 15
6 6405 MIMOSA 57 (D,F) S Dow [illegible] Dane O'Neill 18
7 0151 SANDICLIFFE 13 (D,F) [illegible] S Sanders 4
8 1502 QUEEN'S INSIGNIA 12 (CD,F,G,S) P Cole [illegible] J Reid 12
9 1563 [illegible] 17 (BF,C,F,S) [illegible] K Fallon 11
10 30-0 WINDSWEPT 12 (F) [illegible] M Tebbutt 12
11 5042 DELIGHT OF DAWN 15 (BF,CD,F,G) [illegible] S Carson (7) [illegible]
12 01-5 AMARELLA 8 [illegible] G Hind 13
13 4063 NOEPROB 11 (CD,F,G,S) R Hodges [illegible] P P Murphy (3) 5
14 0001 PROMELTA 19 (F) [illegible] A Clark 1
15 2000 FANCY DESIGN 13 [illegible] 2
16 0506 CATS BOTTOM 14 (D,F) [illegible] S Drowne 5
17 2501 LA CHATELAINE 8 (F) [illegible] 3
18 0-00 EMBER 10 [illegible] (3) 17

6-1 [illegible], 7-1 Queen's Insignia, 8-1 Sandicliffe, [illegible] La Chatelaine, [illegible] Scarlet Crescent, [illegible] 10-1 others

MARKET RASEN

THUNDERER
5.30 Dubelle. 5.55 Fleet Cadet. 6.25 Sohail. 6.55 Battery Fired. *7.25 Ormania.* 7.55 Lightning Quest.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

5.30 HARTWELL FORD, GRIMSBY HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,141: 2m 1f 110yd) (5 runners)

1 2121 *BRAMBLEBERRY 7 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 8-11-10* R Guest
2 023- LASATA 162 (D,S) R Carson 12-11-8 D Morris
3 4-10 DUBELLE 19 (F,G) J King 7-10-11 J Culloty
4 142/ TONY MURPHYS MAN 2170 (F,G) J Upson 12-10-7 R Supple
5 3324 VERDE LUNA 21 (D,F) D Arbuthnot 5-10-4 S McNeill

4-5 Brambleberry, 4-1 Dubelle, 5-1 Verde Luna, 8-1 Tony Murphys Man, 10-1 Lasata

5.55 BUSINESS TELEGRAPH HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,136: 2m 1f 110yd) (6)

1 1-2P FLEET CADET 12 (V,BF,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 6-11-10 G Supple (5)
2 5051 IRIE MON 15 (CD,F) M Bielby 5-10-12 M A Fitzgerald
3 5-01 SUMMER VILLA 21 (B,CD,F) K Wingrove 5-10-4 J Ryan
4 -243 DOWN THE YARD 21 M Chapman 4-10-3 W Worthington
5 *22F- CAPTAIN TANDY 78F (D,F,S) C Smith 8-10-2* P McLoughlin
6 1,06 PLATINUM EMPIRE 15 (G) B Gee 7-10-0 Mr P Gee

3-4 Fleet Cadet, 3-1 Irie Mon, 4-1 Summer Villa, Down The Yard, 7-1 Captain Tandy, 20-1 Platinum Empire

6.25 DON NOBLE BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,165: 2m 6f 110yd) (6)

1 2234 ANDRELOT 3 (B,BF,C,F,G) P Bowen 10-12-0 M A Fitzgerald
2 111/ OH SO HANDY 466 (F,G,S) R Curtis 9-11-8 D Morris
3 4-P4 MAGIC BLOOM 15 (CD,F,G) J Jefferson 11-11-6 E Callaghan (3)
4 *-73- SOHAIL 371 (CD,F,G,S) J King 14-11-3* J Culloty
5 -562 JIM VALENTINE 15 (D,F,S) D Wintle 11-10-5 W Marston
6 2UU6 WALLS COURT 7 (F,G) J Bethell 10-10-0 A S Smith

6-4 Jim Valentine, 3-1 Andrelot, 11-2 Sohail, 7-1 Oh So Handy, Walls Court, 8-1 Magic Bloom

6.55 GRIMSBY EVENING TELEGRAPH MAIDEN CHASE
(£3,574: 2m 4f) (6)

1 -24F BATTERY FIRED 12 N Mason 8-11-5 D Gallagher
2 1FF- COQ HARDI DANCER 497P (S) Mrs S Smith 7-11-5 R Guest
3 -050 EARL GRAY 11 (B,F,G) A J Lockwood 10-11-5 Miss A Deniel
4 3P0- GOODHEAVENS MRTONY 89 (G) A J Lockwood 10-11-5 A Dobbin
5 4-23 KINLOGH GALE 7 (B,F) Mrs M Evans 9-11-5 Mr E Williams
6 031- SHILLELAGH OAK 181P (S) J O'Shea 7-11-5 *Michael Brennan (3)*

8-11 Battery Fired, 4-1 Shillelagh Oak, 9-2 Kinlogh Gale, 8-1 Coq Hardi Dancer, 33-1 Earl Gray, Goodheavens Mrtony

7.25 SPORTS TELEGRAPH NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,746: 2m 1f 110yd) (7)

1 0PP- AWESOME VENTURE 12F M Chapman 7-10-12 W Worthington
2 0/0- BERTIE 337 J A Harris 7-10-12 S Taylor (5)
3 364- LORD OF THE RINGS 145 F Murphy 5-10-12 P Carberry
4 62-1 ORMANIA 66 (G) M Pipe 4-10-10 C Maude
5 WELSH MOUNTAIN 17F K Morgan 4-10-9 R Dunwoody
6 0-04 MAGGIE STRAIT 28 Mrs A King 5-10-7 V Slattery
7 46-3 O MY LOVE 38 (BF) N Babbage 6-10-7 B Fenton

4-7 Ormania, 4-1 Welsh Mountain, 7-1 Lord of The Rings, 12-1 O My Love, 14-1 Maggie Strait, 33-1 Awesome Venture, 50-1 Bertie

7.55 BURNING SENSATION GRIMSBY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,108: 2m 5f 110yd) (8)

1 1025 LIGHTNING QUEST 11 (G) Mrs S Smith 6-12-0 R Guest
2 505- PANGERAN 186 C Grant 5-11-12 J Supple (3)
3 54-3 LEAP IN THE DARK 14 Miss L Siddall 8-11-6 A Thornton
4 6P-1 THIRTY BELOW 7 (F) M Chapman 8-11-4 W Worthington
5 -461 SUSELJA 21 (CD,F) J Jefferson 6-10-13 A Dobbin
6 -432 *TULLOW LADY 21 D Brennan 8-10-9* M Brennan
7 5-50 CAN SHE CAN CAN 21 C Smith 5-10-7 M Ranger
8 005- PORT VALENSKA 89 (V) J A Harris 4-10-6 S Taylor (5)

3-4 Thirty Below, 7-2 Lightning Quest, 4-1 Leap In The Dark, Suselja, 6-1 Tullow Lady, 12-1 Pangeran, 16-1 Can She Can Can, 20-1 Port Valenska

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Bowen, 3 winners from 9 runners, 33.3%; M Pipe, 14 from 61, 23.0%; J Jefferson, 7 from 35, 20.0%; F Murphy, 6 from 32, 18.8%; K Morgan, 15 from 119, 12.6%; Miss L Siddall, 5 from 41, 12.2%.

JOCKEYS: A P McCoy, 15 winners from 42 rides, 35.7%; P Carberry, 6 from 24, 25.0%; R Dunwoody, 14 from 72, 19.4%; M A Fitzgerald, 8 from 52, 15.4%; S McNeill, 4 from 29, 13.8%; J Ryan, 7 from 56, 12.5%.

REDCAR

THUNDERER
5.40 Pure Coincidence. 6.05 Oriole. 6.35 Good Hand. 7.05 Augustan. 7.35 Rabeh. 8.05 Keepsake.

GOING: FIRM SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

5.40 WESTERDALE AUCTION STAKES
SKY
(2-Y-O: £2,923: 5f) (4 runners)

1 1326 PURE COINCIDENCE 22 (D) G Lewis 8-13 Paul Eddery 1
2 32 QUAKERESS 35 John Berry 8-5 M Fenton 2
3 0 TORIANNA 68 D Nicholls 8-4 J Carroll 3
4 2131 BEECHWOOD QUEST 8 (D,D) B Rothwell 8-3 P Fessey (3) 4

2-5 Pure Coincidence, 9-2 Quakeress, 6-1 Beechwood Quest, 16-1 Torianna

6.05 HERTEL SERVICES HANDICAP
SKY
(£3,912: 1m) (13)

1 1204 CASHMERE LADY 14 (D,G) J Eyre 5-9-10 O Pears 5
2 6050 HOH RETURNS 6 (F) M Bell 4-9-9 G Faulkner (5) 11
3 *0606 ROYAL RESULT 105 (D,F) T Barron 4-9-8* J Carroll 2
4 1113 DEE PEE TEE CEE 20 (BF,C,D,F,G,S) M W Easterby 3-9-7 T Lucas 8
5 0-04 LARGESSE 19 (G) John Berry 3-9-5 M Fenton 13
6 0560 GULLIVER 14 (D,F) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-5 T E Durcan (3) 1
7 1004 PERICLES 13 (S) M Johnston 3-9-5 D Holland 6
8 33-5 ALPINE PANTHER 10 (BF) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-2 A Culhane 12
9 2003 SPANISH VERDICT 8 (B,C,D,F,S) D Smith 10-8-5 Paul Eddery 9
10 0231 ORIOLE 13 (CD,F,G,S) Denys Incisa 4-8-4 Kim Tinkler 4
11 3000 HIGHSPEED 8 (B,D,F,S) S Kettlewell 5-8-3 P Fessey (3) 7
12 0500 FOREST ROBIN 7 Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-2 M Deering 10
13 0313 SNOWY MANTLE 22 (BF,D,F) J Bethell 4-8-1 Iona Wands (5) 3

4-1 Dee Pee Tee Cee, 6-1 Oriole, 7-1 Cashmere Lady, Pericles, Spanish Verdict, 8-1 Snowy Mantle, 10-1 Alpine Panther, 14-1 others.

6.35 RUNSWICK SELLING STAKES
SKY
(£2,672: 1m 6f 19yd) (4)

1 3241 CHARITY CRUSADER 14 (B,CD,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-10 S Copp (5) 4
2 *10-2 GOOD HAND 74 (BF,CD,F,G) S Kettlewell 11-9-5* K Darley 2
3 0005 KINDRED GREETING 8 (B) J O'Reilly 5-9-5 J O'Reilly 1
4 5043 FIRESTATETOBEEM 8 (V) F Watson 4-9-0 P Fessey (3) 3

4-7 Good Hand, 3-1 Charity Crusader, 5-1 Firestatetobeem, 25-1 Kindred Greeting

7.05 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE HANDICAP
SKY
(Amateurs: £2,735: 1m 3f) (5)

1 5361 FARRINGDON HILL 12 (V,F) J Gosden 6-12-0 C Ranson (4) 1
2 *3261 AUGUSTAN 16 (F,S) S Gollings 6-11-5* T McCarthy 5
3 -106 BRAMBLES WAY 107 (C,F) Mrs M Reveley 8-10-13 N E Jones (4) 3
4 3420 MADISON WELCOME 22 (V,BF) Mrs J Ramsden 3-10-13 S Swiers 4
5 0422 ESSAYEFFSEE 8 (BF,C,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-10-13 F Cornerford (4) 2

2-1 Farringdon Hill, 9-4 Augustan, 3-1 Madison Welcome, 11-2 Essayeffsee, 7-4 Brambles Way

7.35 WHITBY CONDITIONS STAKES
SKY
(2-Y-O: £3,438: 7f) (5)

1 U1 BETTRON 38 (D,F) R Hannon 9-1 P Dobbs (7) 5
2 65 CROSBY DON 49 E Weymes 8-11 J Carroll 4
3 4 PALMETTO BAY 29 M Stoute 8-11 K Darley 2
4 02 RABAH 22 J Dunlop 8-11 G Carter 3
5 0 SINCH 16 T Barron 8-6 L Charnock 1

11-10 Rabah, 7-4 Palmetto Bay, 4-1 Bettron, 25-1 Crosby Don, Sinch

8.05 YORKSHIRE-TYNE TEES TELEVISION HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,218: 1m 6f 19yd) (13)

1 1663 SCARROTS 13 (F,G) S C Williams 9-7 K Darley 10
2 -0M BEAUCHAMP LION 12 J Dunlop 9-7 G Carter 13
3 2301 WELLCOME INN 10 (S) J O'Reilly 9-0 J O'Reilly 6
4 0042 SHILLING 22 A Stewart 8-13 J Carroll 12
5 3646 LOVE ME DO 6 M Johnston 8-12 D Holland 9
6 2334 CHATEAUHERAULT 10 P Haslam 8-12 P Roberts (5) 1
7 1450 AURELIAN 17 (CD,F) M Bell 8-10 M Fenton 11
8 5321 KEEPSAKE 10 (F) M Usher 8-4 R Street 7
9 5665 JOGGY'S VIOLA 3 Mrs M Reveley 8-3 A Culhane 5
10 4016 MAREMMA 10 (C,S) Denys Incisa 8-1 Kim Tinkler 4
11 5003 DULAS BAY 14 M W Easterby 7-11 Dale Gibson 8
12 0526 EUROLINK WINDSONG 8 M Wane 7-10 L Charnock 2
13 -000 MECHILIE 73 J W Payne 7-10 P Fessey (3) 3

7-2 Beauchamp Lion, 6-1 Scarrots, Keepsake, 7-1 Shilling, 8-1 Aurelian, Dulas Bay, 10-1 Love Me Do, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Hannon, 10 winners from 31 runners, 32.3%; J Gosden, 18 from 59, 30.5%; J Dunlop, 13 from 47, 27.7%; M Stoute, 6 from 31, 19.4%; S Williams, 5 from 30, 16.7%.

JOCKEYS: D Holland, 5 winners from 22 rides, 22.7%; K Darley, 55 from 270, 20.4%; Paul Eddery, 9 from 48, 18.8%; G Carter, 12 from 69, 17.4%; J Carroll, 19 from 145, 13.1%; S Copp, 5 from 39, 12.8%.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Goodwood

Going: good to firm

2.10 (1m 2f) 1, LONELY HEART (J Reid, 12-1); 2, Ricardo (Pat Eddery, 8-13 fav); 3, Majesty (R Hills, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 6 *Shooting Star* (5th), 9 *Lighten Up* (4th). 5 ran. 5l, 3l, 17l, 5l. D Elsworth at Whitcombe. Tote: £11.60; £4.10, £1.10. DF: £4.10. CSF: £19.00.

2.40 (1m 4f) 1, MENGAAB (G Hind, 9-1); 2, Urgent Swift (W Ryan, 9-1); 3, Hair Trigger (Pat Eddery, 100-30 fav). ALSO *RAN: 4 Koraloona* (4th), 13-2 Mr Browning (6th), North Reef, 8 Steamroller Stanly, Tikopia (5th). 8 ran. Shd, 3l, 1½l, nk, 3l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £16.20; £3.20, £2.90, £1.60. DF: £70.80. CSF: £74.58. Tricast: £294.37.

3.10 (7f) 1, MIDNIGHT LINE (W Ryan, 11-2); 2, Alignment (J Reid, 7-1); 3, Elshamms (R Hills, 6-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Half-Hitch (5th), 10 Filey Brigg (6th), 11 *Regal Revolution* (4th). 6 ran. Sh hd, 1½l, 1¾l, 7l, 4l. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £6.50; £2.50, £3.10. DF: £23.30. CSF: £37.44.

3.40 (1m 1f) 1, SWEET CONTRALTO (Pat Eddery, 4-1 jt-fav); 2, Al Azhar (A McGlone, 12-1); 3, Dandel (G Hind, 10-1). *ALSO RAN: 4 jt-fav Kafal*, 11-2 Space Race (5th), 6 Mantles Prince (4th), 8 Sunbeam Dance, 10 Olivo, 14 Merciless Cop (6th). 9 ran. 1¾l, sh hd, 5l, 3l, ¾l. D Loder at Newmarket. Tote: £5.10; £2.00, £3.10, £2.60. DF: £49.20. Trio: £327.20. CSF: £47.32. Tricast: £406.86.

4.15 (6f) 1, FIRST DANCE (Pat Eddery, 4-5 fav); 2, Poetto (J Reid, 9-2); 3, Blarney Park (J Quinn, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 5 Bermuda Triangle (5th), 25 Dahlidya (4th), Swift Time, 40 Far-So-La, Lady Ralphina (6th). 8 ran. Sh hd, 10l, ¾l, 1¼l, nk. R Hannon at East Everleigh. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £2.00, £1.70. DF: £4.10. CSF: £4.08. Bought in 9,000gns.

4.45 (6f) 1, SHUDDER (F Lynch, 13-2); 2, Storm Fromthe East (J Reid, 8-1); 3, Honey Storm (Paul Eddery, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 4-5 fav Torrent (6th), 25 Chief Whip (4th), 33 March Fourteenth (5th), 50 *Mirmamirror*. 7 ran. Nk, 2l, ¾l, 1¾l, nk. W Haggas at Newmarket. Tote: £9.30; £2.70, £2.00. DF: £33.50. CSF: £38.43.

Jackpot: £122,018.80 (0.3 winning tickets. Pool of £120,300.27 carried forward to Goodwood today).

Placepot: £244.90. Quadpot: £80.70.

Newmarket

Going: good

2.00 (7f) 1, ASHRAAKAT (M J Kinane, 6-5 fav); 2, Shmaal (L Dettori, 10-1); 3, Virtuous (S Sanders, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 Jibe (4th), 25 Clerity, 33 Quiver Tree, 50 Chim Chiminey (6th). Dubilnis: Frond (5th), Goldune, Solo Spirit. 11 ran. 1¾l, 2l, nk, 4l, 2l. J Dunlop at Arundel. Tote: £2.30; £1.10, £1.70, £4.50. DF: £5.90. Trio: £23.40. CSF: £11.87.

2.35 (7f) 1, FANTASY ISLAND (L Dettori, 4-9 fav); 2, Air Attache (R Cochrane, 50-1); 3, Wise Venture (K Fallon, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Gulland (4th), 14 Florazi (5th), 20 Salford, 50 Aspirant Dancer, Dutch Lad, Rude Shock (6th). 9 ran. 3½l, ¾l, 1¾l, 6l, 1¾l. S bin Suroor at Newmarket. Tote: £1.10; £1.10, £4.00, £1.50. DF: £15.90. Trio: £18.20. CSF: £38.30.

3.05 (6f) 1, KIND OF LIGHT (Martin *Dwyer*, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, *Kings Harmony* (R Havlin, 7-1); 3, Princely Sound (D Sweeney, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 3 jt-fav Tolar (4th), 7 Don Pepe, *Shining Cloud* (5th), 20 Dearly, Miss Aragon (6th). 8 ran. ¾l, 1¾l, nk, sh hd, ½l. R Guest at Newmarket. Tote: £3.70; £1.50, £1.80, £2.90. DF: £8.10. CSF: £19.32. Tricast: £119.47.

3.35 (6f) 1, ELNADIM (M J Kinane, 4-1); 2, Bollin Joanne (K Fallon, 8-4 fav), 3, Alrushtarak (R Cochrane, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Blue Goblin, 10 Proud Native, 12 Tedburrow (6th), 16 Abou Zouz, *Jayannpee* (5th), *My Melody Parkes* (4th), 25 Connemara, 33 March Star. 11 ran. 1¾l, 1½l, 2½l, ¾l, ¾l. J Dunlop at Arundel. Tote: £5.20; £1.60, £1.50, £2.00. DF: £7.70. Trio: £80.00. CSF: £12.28.

4.10 (1m 6f 175yd) 1, MAWARED (M J Kinane, 4-9 fav: Timekeeper's top rating); 2, Star Rage (D Holland, 8-1); 3, Wild Rita (Dane O'Neill, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 7 Tudor Island (4th), 9 Durham (5th). 5 ran. 1¾l, 1¾l, 1l, 10l. J Dunlop at Arundel. Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £2.40. DF: £3.58. CSF: £4.74. After a stewards' inquiry, the result stood.

4.40 (7f) 1, LA DOLCE VITA (K Fallon, 11-4); 2, Petite Danseuse (L Dettori, 9-4 fav); 3, Gunners Glory (D Sweeney, 8-1). ALSO *RAN: 6 Nant Y Gamer* (6th), 9 South China Sea, 10 Mike's Double (5th), 14 Cold Steel, 33 Gresatre (4th). 8 ran. Nk, nk, ½l, 2½l, 1¾l. T Barron at Thirsk. Tote: £3.60; £1.60, £1.40, £2.00. DF: £4.00. CSF: £8.05.

5.10 (1m) 1, OUTSOURCING (L Dettori, 9-2); 2, Ron's Pet (Dane O'Neill, 10-1); 3, Narrogin (S Sanders, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Shalyah, 5-2 Roborant (6th), 9 Celtic Comfort, 16 Kim's Brave (5th), Minetta (4th), 20 Baller Rambert, Cherished. 10 ran. ¾l, shd, shd, 1l, shd. P Cole at Whatcombe. Tote: £3.80; £1.10, £2.30, £3.90. DF: £7.70. Trio: £48.90. CSF: £47.91. Tricast: £539.66.

Placepot: £7.00. Quadpot: £4.00.

Thirsk

Going: good (good to firm in places)

2.20 (7f) 1, Impulse (K Darley, 8-1); 2, Katie's Cracker (9-4 fav); 3, Pink Ticket (12-1). 15 ran. NR: Anniemitchellslass. 2½l, 1¾l. A Jarvis. Tote: £7.90; £2.50, £1.10, £6.30. DF: £10.90. Trio: £62.60. CSF: £19.93.

2.50 (1m) 1, Sweet Fortune (K Darley, 7-4 *fav*); 2, Shear Face (13-2), 3, Alfahes (9-4). 4 ran. 2l, 2½l. M Stoute. Tote: £2.60. DF: £9.50. CSF: £11.32.

3.20 (6f) 1, Exbourne's Wish (J Carroll, 9-4); 2, Robsart (11-8 fav), 3, Naskhi (9-2). 12 ran. NR: Nordic Pipo. 3½l, 3½l. B Hills. Tote: £2.70; £1.40, £1.10, £1.70. DF: £2.50. Trio: £2.10. CSF: £4.85.

3.50 (2m) 1, Leviticus (G Duffield, 7-1); 2, *Charter* (10-1); 3, Highfield Fizz (8-1). Batabanoo 2-1 fav. 8 ran. 1¾l, 3½l. T Tate. Tote: £9.10; £2.50, £3.10, £1.80. DF: £67.20. CSF: £69.08. Tricast: £526.10.

4.25 (6f) 1, Grand Estate (K Darley, 2-1 fav); 2, Hirst Bridge (10-1); 3, High Carry (14-1). 11 ran. NR: Coolin River. 1l, 1¾l. T Easterby. Tote: £4.10; £2.20, £2.80, £7.00. DF: £17.60. Trio: £96.60. CSF: £24.64. Tricast: £220.25.

4.55 (5f) 1, Cross The Border (P Roberts, 11-2); 2, Camionneur (11-2); 3, Bowcliffe Grange (5-1 fav); 4, Imp Express (8-1). 17 ran. 2l, nk. D Nichols. Tote: £5.10; £1.90, £2.90, £2.40, £2.10. DF: £13.50. Trio: £61.80. CSF: £33.92. Tricast: £158.01.

Placepot: £187.70. Quadpot: £43.60.

Desert Prince leads raid on Deauville

DESERT PRINCE, the mount of Kieren Fallon, heads a 13-strong British raid on Deauville this weekend when he contests tomorrow's group one Prix Morny. David Loder and the colt's owners, the Lucayan Stud, will be hoping for a repeat of last year's six-furlong contest, in which Bahamian Bounty touched off Zamindar, the hot favourite. Their chief rival will again be an André Fabre-trained colt carrying the Khaled Abdullah colours — the unbeaten Zafonic colt, Xaar, ridden by Olivier Peslier.

Desert Prince has not run since finishing second to Harbour Master in the Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot but is reported in good form.

Classic Cliche (John Reid) attempts to get back on the winning trail following second places in the Ascot Gold Cup and Goodwood Cup in the group two Prix Kergorlay.

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RACING

Among Men can give Stoute cause to celebrate

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

AFTER the battering suffered by punters at York's Ebor meeting this week, it is questionable whether many will have any ammunition left with which to try to balance the books today. Perhaps, that is just as well.

While there is no shortage of races from which to choose, quality is in short supply and today's feature event, the Tripleprint Celebration Mile at Goodwood, is something of a damp squib, having attracted just four runners for the £50,000-added group two event.

Polar Prince, who beat the Michael Stoute-trained Faithful Son in the Diomed Stakes at Epsom on Derby Day, subsequently ran with credit at the Curragh and Deauville, while Cape Cross won over course and distance three weeks ago before disappointing slightly at Sandown ten days ago.

Nap: AL MUALLIM
(3.10 Newmarket)
Next best: Dancing Image
(2.45 Goodwood)

However, it is difficult to look beyond the Stoute-trained **Among Men**, who has improved with every run since making a winning debut at Newmarket's Guineas meeting.

A reproduction of the form which saw him win the Jersey Stakes would suffice here and he produced an even better effort when finishing fourth, beaten 2½ lengths, behind Ali-Royal in the Sussex Stakes here. Although the bookmakers have their satchels full after the Knavesmire exchanges, they are hardly likely to be generous with their odds about the favourite.

Earlier in the afternoon, 13 runners line up for the Crowson Rated Handicap (2.45), but the three to concentrate on are Restructure, who returns to handicap company after contesting group races, King Of Peru, a course and distance winner who ran his best race at Goodwood last time, and Dancing Image. Ian Balding's decision to return the Salse gelding to seven furlongs paid off handsomely when he ran out an easy winner over course and distance last time out. Best held up in a fast-run race, he can follow up in the capable hands of Michael Kinane.

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

The shares of Ladbroke are climbing ever higher on the stock market and the sprint handicap (3.15), sponsored by Britain's biggest firm of bookmakers, helps to explain its commercial success. Backers are attracted like moths to light by such races despite the difficulty of separating 20 or more tightly handicapped sprinters.

With Oggi (drawn three), Gadge (two) and Scissor Ridge (five) all liking to race prominently, the pace is likely to develop up the stands' side and that could help Faraway Lass, ridden by Frankie Dettori. She recorded a career-best effort when finishing fourth, beaten less than a length, in the Stewards' Cup. All her best form is on a sound surface and any overnight rain would reduce her chances.

Away from the television cameras, the race which makes most betting appeal is the Chris Blackwell Memorial Handicap at Newmarket (3.10). Jorrocks showed a good turn of foot to win a competitive Goodwood handicap last time and is on the upgrade, while Jawhari and Sharpo Wassl will deservedly have their supporters.

However, **Al Muallim** has improved on each of his four starts and impressed when beating Levelled at Lingfield six days ago. That was over six furlongs and he should be equally effective over today's trip.

RACELINE
0930 168+
COMMENTARY
GOODWOOD 101 201
NEWMARKET 102 202
BEVERLEY 103 203
CARTMEL 104 204
WINDSOR 105 205
REDCAR 106 206
MKT RASEN 107 207
IRISH 120 220
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168
IRISH LOTTERY RESULT
0930 162 441

MONDAY: Epsom (C4, 2.05), Newcastle (C4, 2.20), Chepstow (2.15), Ripon (2.10), Warwick (2.30), Cartmel (2.00), Huntingdon (2.15), Fontwell Park (2.30), Southwell (2.30), Newton Abbot (2.30).

TUESDAY: Ripon (2.30), Uttoxeter (2.15).

WEDNESDAY: Brighton (2.20), Carlisle (2.10), Worcester (2.00).

THURSDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 2.00), Musselburgh (2.20), Sedgefield (2.10).

FRIDAY: Chester (2.10), Sandown Park (2.00), Perth (2.20).

SATURDAY: Sandown Park (C4, 2.00), Chester (2.10), Ripon (2.30), Perth (2.20).

Flat meetings denoted in bold

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8/1	Oggi	20/1	Conspiracy
10/1	Double Bounce	20/1	Gadge
10/1	Tiler	20/1	Levelled
11/1	No Extras	20/1	Prends Ca
12/1	Bowden Rose	25/1	Lord Olivier
12/1	Willow Dale	25/1	Resist The Force
14/1	Sir Joey	25/1	Scissor Ridge
16/1	Golden Pound	33/1	Spender
16/1	Mister Jolson	50/1	Just Loui
16/1	Riffi		

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Midnight Line profits from slender margin

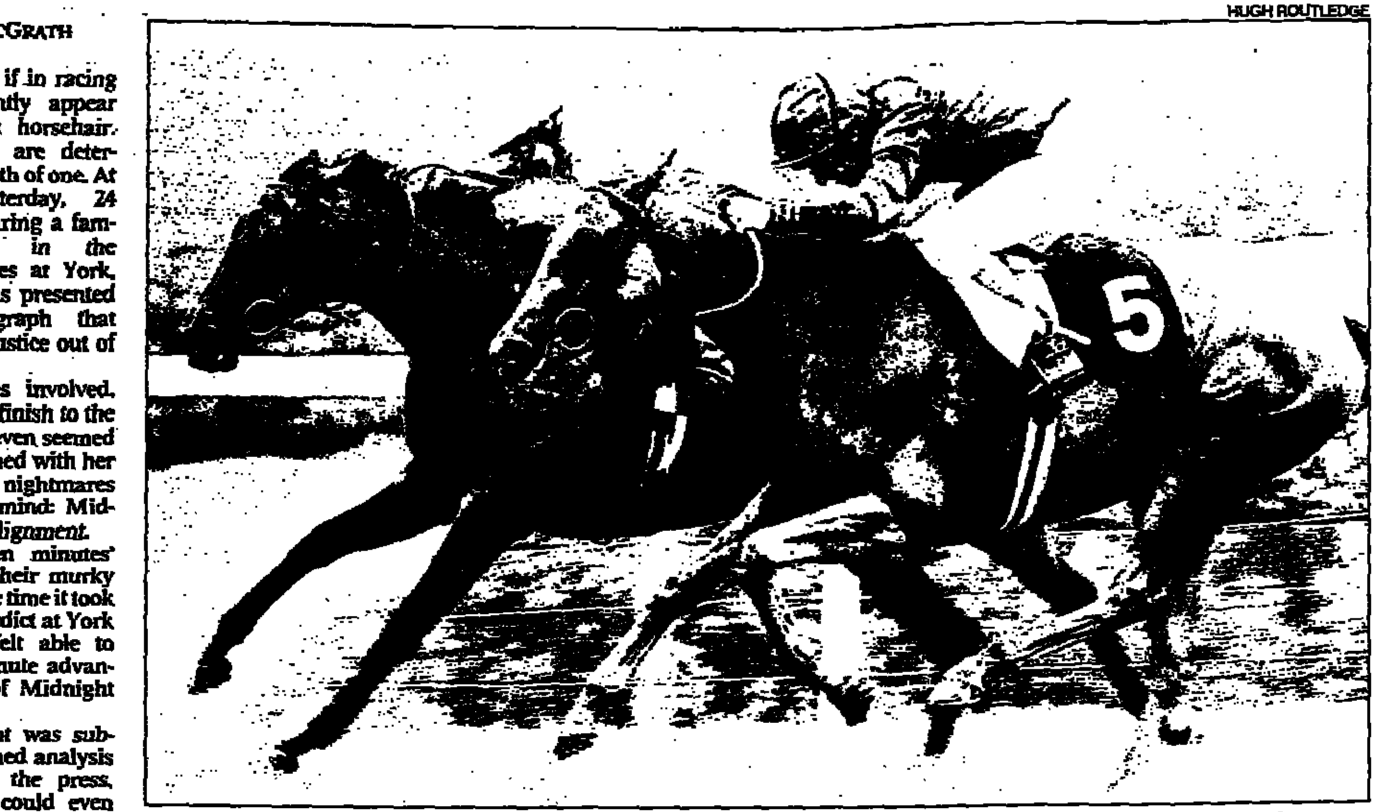
By Chris McGrath

LITTLE wonder if in racing fortunes frequently appear suspended by a horsehair. Sometimes they are determined by the width of one. At Goodwood yesterday, 24 hours after declaring a famous dead-heat in the Nunthorpe Stakes at York, Jane Stickels was presented with a photograph that teased the very justice out of judging.

The two fillies involved, after a desperate finish to the Prestige Stakes, even seemed to have been named with her own private nightmares tormentingly in mind: Midnight Line and Alignment.

After some ten minutes' examination of their murky nostrils — half the time it took her to reach a verdict at York — the official felt able to distinguish a minute advantage in favour of Midnight Line.

When the print was submitted to anguished analysis by members of the press, some of whom could even hold a magnifying glass steady, it was difficult to imagine how much less decisive the Nunthorpe image could have been. It sounds like an easy job, being a racecourse judge, but you would not be surprised to learn that Telly Savalas had been one once.


HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Midnight Line, near side, finishes strongly to deny Alignment by a short head at Goodwood yesterday

How cruel that so much — from 10p yankees in a Penge betting shop to the many thousands of pounds that a group three success adds to the value of a broodmare — can hinge on so little. Doubly so that Alignment should have been headed for but one stride in covering these seven furlongs of rolling downland. The courage with which she defended her lead met a suitable match, but neither filly deserved to be beaten.

"The difference is half the width of the cursor line, but I didn't need a second print today," Stickels said yesterday. "It can be extremely difficult to get the line exactly on the horse's nose, and sometimes as little as a flared nostril makes the difference. It's very sad for the loser, but I'm here to split them if I can."

Midnight Line, trained by Henry Cecil for Fahd Salman, had won over course and distance at the big meeting here last month, and may now try to emulate the May Hill Stakes success of her dam, Midnight Air. Anthony Penfold, the owner's racing manager, said: "She has run her heart out, and another furlong will not go amiss should she go to Doncaster."

Willie Ryan, the winning jockey, added: "As we saw at York, when it takes so long, you would both happily settle for a dead-heat. All credit to both fillies, they're very game."

Earlier in the summer, even more had hinged on a similarly close verdict, when Ryan clung on to the Derby on Benny The Dip, and John Reid — while confessing the print to be "as close to a dead-heat as I have ever seen" — was in no mood to push his luck in lamenting that of Alignment. He had got up in similar circumstances with Cape Verdi to deprive Embassy in the Lowther Stakes at York the previous day, earning 1,000 Guineas favouritism in the process.

Bookmakers have lesser expectations for the protagonists here, Coral offering 33-1 about both, and likewise about Elshamms, the beaten favourite. "I'm disappointed, because I thought she was very good," Alec Stewart, her trainer, said. "But she is immature and didn't get home after doing too much early on."

GOODWOOD

THUNDERER

2.15 Palio Sky
2.45 Dancing Image
3.15 Oggi
3.50 Among Men
4.20 Statajack
4.50 SHINING EXAMPLE (nap)
5.25 Hadayik

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.50 CAPE CROSS.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST — SIS

2.15 SPORT ON 5 MARCH STAKES (3-Y-O: £13,009: 1m 6f) (5 runners)

101	(2)	31-1125	PALIO SKY 25 (F,G) (J Nash) J Dunlop 8-11	M J Kinane	113
102	(1)	412	PENTAD 36 (S) (K Abdulla) R Charlton 8-11	L Dettori	102
103	(4)	2031323	BOOK AT BEDTIME 2 (D,S) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 8-6	M Roberts	124
104	(3)	0003311	PRINCESS TOPAZ 9 (D,F,G) (S Crown) C Cyzer 8-6	K Fallon	93
105	(5)	8-42124	THORNBY PARK 21 (CD,S) (Appleby Lodge Stud) J Dunlop 8-6	G Duffield	105

BETTING: 6-4 Palio Sky, 9-4 Pentad, 7-2 Book At Bedtime, 7-1 Thornby Park, 8-1 Princess Topaz.

1996: SHARAF KABEER 8-11 L Dettori (11-4 fav) S bin Suroor 7 ran

Palio Sky 12l 5th to Stowaway in 1½m group III here (good to firm); previously 8l 2nd of 5 to Kingfisher Mill in 1½m Ascot group II stakes at Ascot (good to soft). Pentad 1¼l 2nd to Corradini (pair 8l clear of 3rd) in 1½m Newmarket stakes (good). Book At Bedtime makes swift reappearance after 11l 3rd to Kaliana in 1½m York listed stakes (good). Princess Topaz beat Brand New Dance 1¼l in 1¼m Sandown handicap (good to firm). Tough task in this company. Thornby Park, stepping up significantly in class today, 4¾l 4th to Lifre in 1¾m handicap here (good to firm).

PALIO SKY gets a narrow vote over the progressive Pentad

2.45 CROWSON HANDICAP (£9,855: 7f) (13 runners) BBC1

201	(11)	2-00032	RESTRUCTURE 36 (F) (M Myers) Mrs J Cecil 5-9-7	M Roberts	112
202	(1)	0220130	TUMBLEWEED RIDGE 8 (B,D,F,G,S) (Tumbleweed Ptns) B Meehan 4-9-5	M Tebbutt	108
203	(12)	20-140	SWISS LAW 67 (D,F) (M al-Maktoum) J Gosden 3-9-0	L Dettori	101
204	(8)	0500636	OMAHA CITY 21 (F) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 3-8-11	R Cochrane	105
205	(3)	0400466	KING OF PERU 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs M McClean) N Littmoden 4-8-10	K Fallon	110
206	(10)	1050200	CHICKAWICKA 14 (D,G,S) (Merthyr Motor Auctions) B Palling 6-8-9	S Drowne	107
207	(4)	22-2461	DANCING IMAGE 21 (CD,F,G) (G Strawbridge) I Balding 4-8-9	M J Kinane	101
208	(5)	-003050	WILDWOOD FLOWER 21 (C,F,G) (G Howard-Spink) R Hannon 4-8-8	C Lowther (5)	106
209	(6)	0-20164	BRILLIANT RED 15 (D,F) (Mrs M George) P Hedger 4-8-7	G Duffield	114
210	(7)	302-040	TOP BANANA 14 (F,G) (H Candy) H Candy 6-8-7	Sarah Jackson (7)	96
211	(2)	2253216	CHEWIT 6 (BF,D,F,G) (Ballard (1834) Ltd) G L Moore 5-8-7	Candy Morris	101
212	(9)	2202430	RAKIS 9 (D,F,S) (P Shorrock) Mrs L Stubbs 7-8-7	Dane O'Neill	105
213	(13)	311-240	CRYHAVOC 66 (F) (A Robinson) J Arnold 3-8-4	J Quinn	98

BETTING: 11-4 Dancing Image, 7-2 Restructure, 7-1 Tumbleweed Ridge, 8-1 Swiss Law, Wildwood Flower, 10-1 Brilliant Red, 12-1 Cryhavoc, 14-1 others

1996: AKIL 4-8-7 W Carson (15-2) R Armstrong 8 ran

Restructure neck 2nd to Decorated Hero in 7f Newbury stakes (good to firm). Tumbleweed Ridge 6¾l 8th to Decorated Hero in 7f Newbury group III (good to firm). Swiss Law 6¾l 14th to Fly To The Stars in 1m Ascot handicap (good to firm). King Of Peru 1¾l 6th to Danetime in 6f Stewards' Cup handicap here (good to firm). Chickawicka 4¾l 7th to Neuwest in 7f Newmarket handicap (good to firm). Dancing Image beat Mashhaer 2½l in 7f handicap here (good to firm). Brilliant Red 3¼l 4th to Atlantic Desire in 1m Salisbury stakes (good to soft). Chewit 8½l 6th to Rasha in 7f Lingfield handicap (good to firm).

SWISS LAW can profit from a return to this trip

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Stoute	23	94	24.5	L Dettori	35	198	17.7
H Cecil	22	100	22.0	M J Kinane	5	33	15.2
P Cole	28	134	20.9	K Fallon	7	49	14.3
J Gosden	24	127	18.9	M Roberts	20	142	14.1
Mrs J Cecil	4	24	16.7	D Griffiths	3	24	12.5

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

3.15 LADBROKE RACING SPRINT HANDICAP (£15,045: 6f) (21 runners) BBC1

301	(14)	0010114	BOWDEN ROSE 7 (B,D,F,G) (G Bailey) M Blanchard 5-9-12	D Sweeney (3)	91
302	(3)	101445	OGGI 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Skyline Racing Ltd) P Makin 6-9-8	R Cochrane	97
303	(7)	21-6602	CONSPIRACY 22 (BF,F) (Earl Cadogan) J Dunlop 3-9-7	M J Kinane	87
304	(17)	3031110	SO INTREPID 7 (CD,F,G,S) (E Hayward) J Bradley 7-9-5	G Duffield	94
305	(6)	1-05602	PRENDS CA 13 (CD,F,G,S) (B Bull) W Muir 4-9-5	J D Smith (3)	83
306	(1)	01-0414	FARAWAY LASS 21 (D,F,G) (J Rose) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-5	L Dettori	92
307	(10)	0220420	SIR JOEY 21 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Sims) P Murphy 8-9-4	S Drowne	88
308	(11)	0-60006	DOUBLE BOUNCE 14 (B,D,F,G) (Mrs P Scott-Dunn) P Makin 7-9-4	M Tebbutt	85
309	(2)	1153520	GADGE 7 (C,D,F,G,S) (J Wilson) A Bailey 6-9-4	C Lowther (5)	91
310	(9)	1342601	WILLOW DALE 7 (D,F,S) (M Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) D Elsworth 4-9-2	K Fallon	97
311	(18)	6644515	GOLDEN POUND 7 (B,D,F,G) (A Grifin) Gay Kelleway 5-9-0	J Wilkinson (7)	96
312	(20)	0514532	TILER 4 (BF,D,F,S) (Mrs C Robinson) M Johnston 5-9-0	M Roberts	92
313	(15)	0401210	NO EXTRAS 21 (CD,F,G,S) (K Higson) G L Moore 7-9-0	J Quinn	96
314	(13)	4180510	SPENDER 7 (D,F,G) (Entrepreneurs) P Harris 8-8-13	G Bardwell	81
315	(16)	1805033	MISTER JOLSON 16 (D,F,G,S) (B Froome) R Hodges 8-8-7	D Griffiths (3)	85
316	(12)	0503101	RIFFI 22 (D,G) (Brooknight Guarding Ltd) R Ingram 4-8-5	Dane O'Neill	93
317	(4)	0315042	LEVELLED 6 (D,F,G) (Maygain Ltd) M Channon 3-8-4	P P Murphy (3)	99
318	(21)	1000002	LORD OLIVIER 15 (BF,D,F,G) (Miss V Jarvis) W Jarvis 7-8-4	Emma O'Gorman	89
319	(8)	0452560	JUST LOUI 7 (V,D) (N Shields) K Burke 3-8-1	P Doe (7)	87
320	(19)	4421134	RESIST THE FORCE 8 (BF,D,F) (Mrs B Hogan) C Cyzer 7-8-1	A Whelan (3)	92
321	(5)	0000352	SCISSOR RIDGE 8 (CD,F) (D Smith) J Bridger 5-7-10	R Brisland (7)	91

Long handicap: Scissor Ridge 7-8.

BETTING: 6-1 Faraway Lass, 8-1 Oggi, 10-1 Double Bounce, Tiler, No Extras, 12-1 Bowden Rose, Willow Dale, 14-1 Riffi, Mister Jolson, Sir Joey, 16-1 Golden Pound, So Intrepid, 20-1 others

1996: WILDWOOD FLOWER 3-9-12 Dane O'Neill (8-1) R Hannon 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

Bowden Rose was denied a treble when 1l 4th to Tadeo in competitive 6f Ripon handicap (good to firm) with Golden Pound (7lb better off) 2¾ 5th, So Intrepid (6lb better off) 5¾l 8th, Gadge (6lb better off) 9½l 13th and Just Loui (4lb better off) 21l last. Conspiracy 1½l 2nd of 3 to Dame Laura in 6f Bikes' Newmarket stakes (good). Prends Ca ¾l 2nd to Bowden Rose (7lb better off) in 6f Epsom stakes (good). Faraway Lass ¾l 4th to Danetime in 6f Stewards' Cup here (good to firm) with Oggi (2lb better off) 1½l 5th, No Extras (5lb better off) 2½l 7th, Double Bounce (7lb better off) 5¼l 13th, Sir Joey (2lb better off) 5¾l 16th and Willow Dale (3lb better off) 7¼l 22nd. Willow Dale subsequently beat Sharp Pearl 1l in 5f Newbury handicap (good to firm) with Spender 12l 11th. Tiler caught close home when ½l 2nd to Plaisir d'Amour in 6f York handicap (good). Riffi beat Mr Bergerac neck in 6f Newmarket handicap (good) with Resist The Force (same terms) neck 3rd

FARAWAY LASS may confirm Stewards' Cup running with Oggi

3.50 TRIPLEPRINT CELEBRATION MILE (Group II: £37,475: 1m) (4 runners) BBC1

401	(4)	6-21133	POLAR PRINCE 41 (C,F,G) (Mrs C Stevenson) M Jarvis 4-9-1	R Cochrane	126
402	(2)	1114	AMONG MEN 24 (D,F,G) (M Tabor & Mrs J Magnier) M Stoute 3-8-9	M J Kinane	125
403	(3)	1-30212	CAPE CROSS 10 (BF,CD,F) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 3-8-9	L Dettori	129
404	(1)	210650	PEARTREE HOUSE 23 (D,F,S) (Fayzad Ltd) W Muir 3-8-9	Dane O'Neill	112

BETTING: 10-11 Among Men, 5-2 Polar Prince, 3-1 Cape Cross, 25-1 Peartree House.

1996: MARK OF ESTEEM 3-9-1 L Dettori (11-4 fav) S bin Suroor 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

Polar Prince 2l 3rd to Neuilly in 1m group III Deauville stakes (good); previously 1¼l 3rd to Alhaarth in 1m group II Curragh Stakes (good to soft). Among Men stayed on strongly when 2½l 4th to Ali-Royal in 1m group I Sussex Stakes here (good to firm), previously beat Kahal ½l in 7f group III Jersey Stakes at Royal Ascot (good to firm) with Peartree House (same terms) 5l 6th. Cape Cross was outpaced close home when neck 2nd to Hirasah in 1m Sandown Stakes (good); previously beat Dragonada 2½l in 1m stakes here (good to firm).

AMONG MEN has clear chance on course form. Polar Prince best of the rest

4.20 CHICHESTER OBSERVER SERIES CLAIMING HANDICAP (£4,143: 1m 2f) (12 runners)

501	(7)	/432531	THE EXECUTOR 11 (F,G) (J Joseph) R O Sullivan 7-9-13	A Procter	61
502	(5)	2630543	STATAJACK 10 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs M Slade) D Elsworth 9-9-9	K Fallon	72
503	(1)	213-430	THATCHMASTER 47 (CD,F,G) (Mrs B Sumner) C Horgan 6-9-8	D O'Donohoe (3)	62
504	(4)	0600411	WENTBRIDGE LAD 7 (V,D,F,G,S) (J Pugh) A Bailey 7-9-6	C Lowther (5)	53
505	(8)	0400/	VERULAM 302J (Ellis & Partners Ltd) J Jenkins 4-9-4	J Wilkinson (7)	—
506	(6)	4000305	TART 10 (V,G) (Wroughton House Partnership) J Pearce 4-8-13	G Bardwell	69
507	(2)	620451	LAGUNA BAY 17 (D,F) (Town & Country Tyres) A Jarvis 3-8-11	S Drowne	71
508	(10)	50000	SALTANDO 35 (V,F) (Mrs S Herridge) Pat Mitchell 6-8-11	Dane O'Neill	60
509	(12)	0004403	MULTI FRANCHISE 12 (D,F) (Marlork Racing) R Flower 4-8-7	J D Smith (3)	69
510	(3)	4-30403	OOZLEM 19 (B,F,G) (Brooknight Guarding Ltd) L Montague Hall 8-7-10	A Polli (5)	57
511	(9)	5400542	HARLEQUIN WALK 14 (D,G) (Mrs R Doorgachurn) R O'Sullivan 6-7-10	J Quinn	66
512	(11)	0-00006	CHALLENGER 8 (Mrs E Sinclair) L Wells 4-7-10	R Brisland (7)	54

Long handicap: Harlequin Walk 7-9, Challenger 7-2.

BETTING: 3-1 Wentbridge Lad, 4-1 Thatchmaster, 6-1 Statajack, 7-1 The Executor, Laguna Bay, 8-1 Tart, 10-1 Multi Franchise, Harlequin Walk, 14-1 others

1996: THATCHMASTER 5-8-12 Paul Eddery (11-2) C Horgan 19 ran

FORM FOCUS

The Executor beat Pegasus Bay 1¼l in 1m seller at Bath (good). Statajack, tricky customer who can find little, 1¾l 3rd to Your Most Welcome in 1¼m handicap at Salisbury (good to firm). Thatchmaster ran badly latest, previously 2¾l 3rd to Baba Au Rhum in 1m handicap at Sandown (good). Wentbridge Lad beat Father Dan neck in 1¼m apprentice handicap at Brighton (good to firm). Tart, not one to trust, 8¾l 5th to Keepsake in 1½m fillies handicap at Salisbury (good to firm). Laguna Bay beat River Of Fortune 1½l in claimer at Yarmouth (good to firm). Multi Franchise, better over shorter distances, as when 1¼l 3rd to Gold Lance in 1m handicap at Windsor (good to firm)

THATCHMASTER must be excused his latest flop and can follow up last year's win

4.50 RICHMOND-BRISSAC TROPHY HANDICAP (Amateurs: £3,785: 1m 1f) (9 runners)

601	(5)	6021000	WHITE PLAINS 10 (D,F,S) (N Shields) K Burke 4-11-10	L Baragh	72
602	(8)	531401	SEATTLE SWING 12 (F,S) (Seattle Swingers) Mrs A Perrett 3-11-6	R Thornton	74
603	(6)	005100	SHINING EXAMPLE 24 (CD,F,G) (D Allen) P Makin 5-11-4	L Baker	67
604	(1)	0345310	TRIBAL PEACE 6 (CD,F,S) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 5-10-12	J Rees	71
605	(2)	0041046	CONFRONTER 25 (F,G,S) (Hatfield Ltd) S Dow 8-10-6	T Cuff	80
606	(3)	4403000	PIQUANT 10 (F,G,S) (Lord Huntingdon) Lord Huntingdon 10-10-4	R Wakley	71
607	(4)	0000-00	SHOW FAITH 12 (G,S) (I Wight) R Hannon 7-10-3	C Vigors	60
608	(9)	046560	SUPERIOR FORCE 70 (F) (Copyforce Ltd) Miss B Sanders 4-10-3	P Pailhes	62
609	(7)	0000640	DIGPAST 12 (B,G) (Miss S Jones) J Bridger 7-9-7	K Goble	74

Long handicap: Digpast 8-13

BETTING: 5-2 Seattle Swing, 9-2 Confronter, 5-1 Shining Example, 6-1 Tribal Peace, 7-1 White Plains, 8-1 Show Faith, 10-1 Piquant, 12-1 others

1996: NIGHT WINK 4-11-10 K Goble (11-1) G L Moore 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

White Plains 5¾l 8th to Eurobox Boy in 1m apprentice handicap at Sandown (good). Seattle Swing beat Ocean Park 1¼l in 1¼m apprentice handicap at Windsor (good to firm). Shining Example better than 13l 7th to Zamalek in 1¼m apprentice handicap at Sandown (good to firm). Confronter, good effort in strong race when 3¼l 6th to No Extras in 1m handicap here (good to firm). Show Faith continued on downgrade when 3¾l 7th to Gold Lance in 1m handicap at Windsor (good to firm)

CONFRONTER can confirm the merit of his good run here last time

5.25 E B F SOLENT MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,269: 7f) (4 runners)

1	(3)	4	HADAYIK 23 (H al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-11	R Hills	93
2	(2)	0	OBERON'S MISTRAL 23 (Lord Lloyd-Webber) H Cecil 8-11	K Fallon	88
3	(4)		STAR OF THE COURSE (M Arbib) P Cole 8-11	D O'Donohoe (3)	-
4	(1)		YANOMAMI (K Abdulla) J Gosden 8-11	Dane O'Neill	-

BETTING: 7-4 Hadayik, 11-4 Yanomami, 3-1 Oberon's Mistral, 7-2 Star Of The Course

1996: FLEET RIVER 8-11 W Ryan (11-8 fav) H Cecil 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

Hadayik made promising start to career when 4l 4th to Midnight Line in 7f fillies' maiden at Goodwood (good to firm), with Oberon's Mistral (same terms) 5¾l 7th. Star Of The Course Theatrical filly out of an unraced mare. Yanomami Slew O'Gold filly, half-sister to 3 winners including stayer Sun Alert

HADAYIK can put experience to good use against two well-bred newcomers

NEWMARKET

THUNDERER

2.00 Bemsha Swing. 2.35 Afaan. 3.10 Jawhari. 3.40 Darapour. 4.10 Hujoom. 4.40 Sycamore Boy.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

2.00 E B F NGK SPARK PLUGS MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,164: 6f) (11 runners)

1	(4)	6252	BEMSHA SWING 24 R Hannon 9-0	S Sanders	[illegible]
2	(7)	0	LEGAL LARK 10 P Howling 9-0	G Hind	—
3	(5)		MANTELLO D Chappell 9-0	G Carter	—
4	(10)		NAUTICAL WARNING M Tompkins 9-0	D Biggs	—
5	(11)	0	PAARL ROCK 21 D Loder 9-0	C Hodgson	68
6	(2)	0	POLO VENTURE 2 S Woods 9-0	N Day	—
7	(6)		SCONCED G Wragg 9-0	M Hills	—
8	(9)		HOLY SMOKE J Eyre 8-9	F Lynch	—
9	(3)		IKHTEYAAR R Armstrong 8-9	R Hills	—
10	(1)	04	OBSESSED 30 M Stoute 8-9	J Reid	97
11	(8)	00	QUEEN SALOTE 23 D Loder 8-9	A Clark	71

2-1 Obsessed, 5-2 Bemsha Swing, 6-1 Sconced, 7-1 Ikhteyaar, 8-1 Paarl Rock, Queen Salote, 14-1 Polo Venture, 16-1 others.

2.35 CONSTANT SECURITY HANDICAP (Lady amateurs: £4,013: 5f) (13)

1	(1)	0085	PATSY GRIMES 8 (D,F,G,S) J S Moore 7-11-7	S Moore (5)	84
2	(5)	5000	SQUIRE CORRIE 14 (D,F,G,S) D Chapman 5-11-5	R Clark	91
3	(7)	3400	EASTERN PROPHETS 22 (D,S) G Lewis 4-11-3	M Cowdrey	74
4	(9)	0232	SHARP PEARL 7 (B,D,F) P R Webber 4-11-0	E Ramsden	95
5	(4)	4301	MALIBU MAN 16 (D,F,G) E Wheeler 5-10-12	J Allison	89
6	(12)	1681	MARJAANA 10 (D,F,G) P Walwyn 4-10-10	S Somworth (5)	93
7	(5)	1231	MOUSEHOLE 11 (D,F,G) R Guest 5-10-10	Z Burkett (5)	93
8	(10)	3803	SILENT MIRACLE 12 M Bell 3-10-6	A Perrett	82
9	(13)	0200	AFAAN 8 (V,F) R Marvin 4-10-2	M Morris (5)	87
10	(6)	6440	TART AND A HALF 6 (V,BF,D,F) J Eyre 5-10-0	D Jones	[illegible]
11	(2)	00-2	MONTRESTAR 7 (V,D) A Bailey 4-9-8	A Hutchinson (5)	96
12	(11)	6010	ANOTHER NIGHTMARE 14 (D,F,G,S) R McKellar 5-9-2	C Williams (5)	91
13	(8)	0050	RISE 'N SHINE 26 (B) C Cyzer 3-9-0	S Bosley	87

9-2 Mousehole, 5-1 Malibu Man, 6-1 Sharp Pearl, 7-1 Marjaana, 10-1 others.

3.10 CHRIS BLACKWELL MEMORIAL HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £6,116: 7f) (13)

1	(6)	3211	JORROCKS 22 (D,F) I Balding 9-7	Martin Dwyer (3)	84
2	(8)	1-41	AL MUALLIM 6 (F,G) J W Payne 9-5	A McGlone	[illegible]
3	(12)	4-10	JAWHARI 22 (BF,F) J Dunlop 9-5	G Carter	88
4	(11)	2823	FLAMBOYANCE 15 (D) J Fanshawe 9-3	J Reid	89
5	(13)	1046	ZUGUDI 6 (F) K Mahdi 8-12	S Sanders	89
6	(10)	4010	RICH IN LOVE 2 (D,F) C Cyzer 8-12	A Clark	75
7	(2)	4-00	MAYFAIR 97 (F) P Cole 8-11	M Rimmer	68
8	(7)	4250	CYBERTECHNOLOGY 21 (G) B Hills 8-9	M Hills	79
9	(1)	4050	CARATI 6 (B,F) R Boss 8-9	R Ffrench (3)	86
10	(3)	00-3	KAMIN 24 R Armstrong 8-6	R Hills	85
11	(5)	5662	SWIFT 21 (D,F,G) M Polglase 8-4	J Tate	89
12	(4)	1631-	SHARPO WASSL 7 (D,F,G) W Haggas 8-3	F Lynch	89
13	(9)	6200	PUZZLEMENT 119 C Brittain 7-12	R Mullen (5)	77

5-1 Jawhari, 6-1 Jorrocks, 7-1 Rich In Love, Sharpo Wassl, 8-1 Al Muallim, Flamboyance, Swift, 10-1 others.

3.40 DANEPAK CLASSIC RATED HANDICAP (£10,319: 1m 2f) (16)

1	(12)	0012	ANOTHER TIME 25 (D,F,G) S Woods 5-9-7	J Reid	89
2	(15)	0120	LOMBERTO 43 (D,F,S) V Soane 4-8-13	A McGlone	72
3	(6)	1-33	IHTIYATI 108 (F) J Dunlop 3-8-13	R Hills	77
4	(11)	1065	KING OF TUNES 23 (C,D) M Haynes 5-8-12	M Dwyer (3)	98
5	(13)	1F04	WAFIR 20 (D,G,S) P Calver 5-8-11	N Day	95
6	(4)	0565	SECRET ALY 13 (D,F,G) C Brittain 7-8-10	M Rimmer	94
7	(8)	0-50	TIME FOR ACTION 122 M Tompkins 5-8-10	W O'Connor	79
8	(7)	2030	MERSEY BEAT 24 (D) G L Moore 3-8-9	A Clark	[illegible]
9	(5)	3128	TRACEABILITY 9 (C,D,F,S) S C Williams 4-8-8	J Tate	95
10	(14)	1403	ORSAY 14 (D,G,S) W Muir 5-8-8	R Mullen (5)	79
11	(1)	652	SILVER GROOM 14 (D,F,S) R Akehurst 7-8-7	S Sanders	86
12	(2)	1401	HAJR 14 (CD,F,G) E Dunlop 3-8-7	M Hills	97
13	(10)	0-03	DIMINUTIVE 13 (D,F) J Hills 4-8-7	M Henry (3)	87
14	(3)	2-10	LABEQ 22 (F) P Walwyn 3-8-5	G Hind	89
15	(16)	010	DARAPOUR 30 (BF,D,F) L Cumani 3-8-4	R Ffrench (3)	96
16	(9)	1080	GIFT TOKEN 8 (V,F) D Chappell 3-8-3	G Carter	85

5-1 Silver Groom, 6-1 Hajr, 7-1 Another Time, 8-1 Orsay, 10-1 King Of Tunes, Darapour, 12-1 Ihtiyati, Wafir, Secret Aly, Traceability, 14-1 others.

4.10 TOTE MULTIBET NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £14,265: 6f) (12)

1	(4)	0612	SPEEDFIT TOO 12 (D,G) G Margarson 9-7	G Carter	98
2	(9)	2113	HALMAHERA 12 (D,F,S) I Balding 9-3	Martin Dwyer (3)	[illegible]
3	(11)	3214	LIDO 22 (D,F) B Hills 9-1	M Hills	85
4	(12)	312	HUJOOM 22 (BF,F) J Dunlop 8-13	J Reid	98
5	(2)	011	FFESTINIOG 63 (D,F,S) P Cole 8-12	M Rimmer	98
6	(1)	4210	PETARGA 35 (F) J Toller 8-9	S Sanders	77
7	(7)	622	NUCLEAR DEBATE 16 (BF) Mrs J Ramsden 8-8	N Day	75
8	(8)	015	EASTERN PURPLE 3 (D,F) R Fahey 8-5	G Hind	81
9	(10)	01	GOLDEN STRATEGY 33 (F) R Hannon 8-4	M Henry (3)	85
10	(3)	0503	ALPEN WOLF 18 (V) W Muir 7-11	R Mullen (5)	77
11	(5)	004	NIGHT PEOPLE 29 W Jarvis 7-10	R Ffrench (3)	78
12	(6)	4330	FIRE GODDESS 12 J S Moore 7-10	M Baird (3)	97

4-1 Ffestiniog, 5-1 Hujoom, 6-1 Nuclear Debate, 7-1 Speedfit Too, Golden Strategy, 8-1 Halmahera, Lido, Petarga, 12-1 others.

4.40 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS MAIDEN STAKES (£4,056: 1m) (10)

1	(9)	60	MAX'S MAGIC 12 G L Moore 4-9-3	M Wigham	28
2	(8)		CUESTA REY J Hills 3-8-11	M Hills	—
3	(2)		FLOATING CHARGE J Fanshawe 3-8-11	N Day	—
4	(4)	00	HAWKSBILL HENRY 14 Mrs A Perrett 3-8-11	Gaye Harwood	—
5	(6)		MACARIBO J Gosden 3-8-11	G Hind	—
6	(10)	5-5	SYCAMORE BOY 19 Lord Huntingdon 3-8-11	J Reid	61
7	(1)		MISS VITA R Williams 3-8-6	Martin Dwyer (3)	—
8	(7)		PRILUKI C Brittain 3-8-6	M Roberts	—
9	(3)	0250	ROYALE ROSE 12 A Bailey 3-8-6	R Ffrench (3)	—
10	(5)	0-40	SHARKIYAH 116 R Armstrong 3-8-6	G Carter	84

11-4 Sharkiyah, 7-2 Macaribo, 6-1 Sycamore Boy, 7-1 Royale Rose, 10-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Toller, 4 winners from 16 runners, 25.0%; Mrs J Ramsden, 6 from 33, 18.2%; P Walwyn, 4 from 22, 18.2%; R Armstrong, 10 from 61, 16.4%; E Dunlop, 6 from 37, 16.2%.

JOCKEYS: C Hodgson, 4 winners from 24 rides, 16.7%; S Sanders, 7 from 42, 16.7%; R Hills, 20 from 129, 15.5%; J Reid, 17 from 120, 14.2%; R Ffrench, 3 from 28, 10.7%. Only qualifiers.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Beverley: 2.20 Scent Of Success, 5.00 Airborne Harris. Goodwood: 3.15 Double Bounce, Just Loui, 4.20 Tart. Market Rasen: 7.55 Port Valenska. Newmarket: 2.35 Rise 'n Shine, 3.40 Gift Token. Redcar: 6.05 Spanish Verdict, 7.05 Madison Welcome. Windsor: 5.20 Clear View, Rosewood Lady, Sipping Soda, Waytogomo, 5.45 Blue Shadow

BEVERLEY

THUNDERER

2.20 Royal Bounty. 2.50 Nomax Lad. 3.25 Euro Sceptic. 4.00 Indimaaj. 4.30 Cross The Border. 5.00 Farfields Prince.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS
DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.20 ST JOHN AMBULANCE MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,600: 7f 100yd) (8 runners)

1		ELANAAKA D Morley 8-11	J Stack 8
2		MOET J Eyre 8-11	D Pears 6
3	0600	PHANTOM WATERS 30 R Johnson Houghton 8-11	A Culhane 5
4		PICCADILLY T Etherington 8-11	M Fenton 2
5	62	ROYAL BOUNTY 42 W Hern 8-11	T Sprake 3
6	3	SCENT OF SUCCESS 14 (V) M Stoute 8-11	K Darley 4
7	4	SWAYBUS 33 M Johnston 8-11	D Holland 1
8	0	WASHM 35 D Morley 8-11	J Carroll 7

6-4 Royal Bounty, 3-1 Elanaaka, Scent Of Success, 10-1 Swaybus, 12-1 others.

2.50 DRIFFIELD SELLING HANDICAP (£2,616: 1m 3f 216yd) (15)

1	4-00	BANNERET 50 J O'Reilly 4-9-10	Alex Greaves 5
2	-200	INDONESIAN 49 (F) P Calver 5-9-6	Darren Moffatt (3) 12
3	2042	NEEDWOOD EPIC 8 (B,BF) B Morgan 4-9-4	L Charnock 1
4	0045	SLAPY DAM 50 (D,G,S) C Smith 5-9-4	V Slattery 10
5	0-00	HIGHFIELD PET 17 C Fairhurst 4-9-0	T Siddall (7) 13
6	652	FOLEYS QUEST 12 J S Moore 3-9-0	J F Egan 2
7	4000	ROCK THE BARNEY 10 (D,F,G) M Usher 8-9-0	P McCabe (3) 6
8	1444	PORTITE SOPHIE 8 M Brittain 6-8-13	D Mernagh (7) 4
9	4000	THAT OLD FEELING 12 (F) D Chapman 5-8-13	D Pears 11
10	0506	DIAMOND CROWN 12 (CD,F,G) M Wane 6-8-13	J Carroll 14
11	5066	JUBRAN 49 (F,G) J Eyre 11-8-12	R Winston (7) 7
12	4634	NORNAX LAD 11 (B,D,F,G) M Meade 9-8-12	R Havlin (3) 15
13	-440	HAVANA HEIGHTS 12 (F) J Eyre 4-8-10	S Buckley (7) 3
14	5-04	EDEN DANCER 61 (F,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-8-10	A Culhane 9
15	0105	SUSHI BAR 9 (BF,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-10	K Darley 8

11-2 Rock The Barney, 6-1 Needwood Epic, 7-1 Foleys Quest, Eden Dancer, 8-1 Portite Sophie, Sushi Bar, 10-1 Indonesian, Jubran, 12-1 others

3.25 BRIAN MERRINGTON MEMORIAL HANDICAP (£4,890: 7f 100yd) (17)

1	3002	ALLINSON'S MATE 14 (B,D,F,G,S) T Barron 9-9-10	R Lappin 9
2	2014	KASS ALHAWA 5 (D,F,G) D Chapman 4-9-6	A Culhane 4
3	0015	KING ATHELSTAN 14 (D,F) B McMahon 9-9-5	S Righton (7) 5
4	0253	NIGHT OF GLASS 25 (V,F) J Eyre 4-9-3	M Gallagher 1
5	4442	MYTTONS MISTAKE 8 (C,D,F) A Bailey 4-9-2	P Roberts (5) 13
6	0332	NEEDLE MATCH 8 J J O'Neill 4-9-1	J Carroll 12
7	1250	AL REET 8 (D,S) S Bowring 6-8-13	S Webster 11
8	4031	SURF CITY 19 (D,G) W Haigh 4-8-11	Dale Gibson 15
9	0505	WINSTON 8 (G) J Bethell 4-8-9	D Holland 8
10	6400	SOUPERFICIAL 3 (V,D,F,S) N Tinkler 6-8-9	Kim Tinkler 6
11	2014	EURO SCEPTIC 10 (B,CD,F) T Easterby 5-8-8	R Winston (7) 10
12	4540	THATCHED 8 (CD,F,G) R Bastiman 7-8-7	K Sked (5) 7
13	3042	KATIE KOMAITE 10 (V) J H Wilson 4-8-2	K Darley 16
14	0000	ROYAL SOUTH 29 (S) P Felgate 4-8-2	J Fowle (7) 3
15	6000	REINHARDT 5 (BF,C,F) D Nicholls 4-8-0	A Nicholls (7) 2
16	0-00	AXEMAN 67 (F) M Wane 5-7-13	A Daly (5) 14
17	5006	HEATHYARDS LADY 33 (D,F) R Hollinshead 6-7-10	L Charnock 17

5-1 Needle Match, 6-1 Night Of Glass, 7-1 Euro Sceptic, 8-1 Myttons Mistake, 10-1 Allinson's Mate, Surf City, Winston, 12-1 others.

4.00 RACING CHANNEL MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,386: 1m 100yd) (8)

1	5	ALBERICH 10 M Johnston 9-0	D Holland [illegible]
2	0	COUNT KENI 24 J Jefferson 9-0	L Charnock 5
3		HOBART JUNCTION S C Williams 9-0	P Bloomfield 1
4	5	HOMBRE 25 J Watts 9-0	A Culhane 6
5	33	INDIMAAJ 25 J Dunlop 9-0	K Darley 4
6	6	NAJJAR 28 P Walwyn 9-0	J Lowe 8
7		RIGHT CROSS JONNY P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	R Havlin (3) 7
8		TREASURE CHEST W Hern 9-0	T Sprake 2

6-4 Indimaaj, 3-1 Right Cross Jonny, 5-1 Najjar, 7-1 Hombre, 8-1 Treasure Chest, 8-1 Alberich, 20-1 Hobart Junction, 33-1 Count Keni

4.30 SNOWY GRAY MEMORIAL HANDICAP (£3,990: 5f) (18)

1	1200	ROYAL DOME 4 (CD,F,G) M Wane 5-9-12	R Havlin (3) 8
2	0306	BOWLERS BOY 10 (CD,F,S) J J Quinn 4-9-9	Dale Gibson 13
3	4002	THE HAPPY FOX 8 (B,D,F) B McMahon 5-9-7	L Newton 1
4	0000	MAITEAMIA 28 (B,D,G,S) S Bowring 4-9-4	C Teague (3) 10
5	0223	BRECONGILL LAD 10 (CD,F,G) Miss S Hall 5-9-4	L Charnock 17
6	1161	CROSS THE BORDER 5 (BF,D,F,G) D Nicholls 4-9-1	Alex Greaves 16
7	0000	MIDDLE EAST 6 (D,F) T Barron 4-8-13	K Darley 9
8	0030	U-NO-HARRY 10 (D,F) R Hollinshead 4-8-13	J F Egan 11
9	0000	PAGEBOY 10 (D,F) P Haslam 8-8-12	P Roberts (5) 5
10	5004	CAPTAIN CARAT 8 (B,D,F,G) D Nicholls 6-8-9	J Fanning 15
11	40/4	MY ABBEY 50 (D,F,G) A Bailey 8-8-2	R Lappin 12
12	0002	DOMINELLE 10 (CD,F) T Easterby 5-8-1	D Wright 2
13	2351	BALLARD LADY 21 (G,S) J Wainwright 5-8-1	T Williams 18
14	5301	DONA FILIPA 3 (D,F) Miss L Siddall 4-7-13 (7ex)	E Johnson 4
15	5123	TIME TO FLY 15 (B,BF,D) B Murray 4-7-12	R Winston (7) 14
16	3560	SUEDORO 10 (F) J Goldie 7-7-10	J Lowe 6
17	2000	PATHAZE 6 (D,F) N Bycroft 4-7-10	Darren Moffatt (3) 7
18	4003	SOAKED 6 (B) D Chapman 4-7-10	J McAuley (7) 3

3-1 Cross The Border, 6-1 Dominelle, 7-1 Royal Dome, 8-1 The Happy Fox, Brecongill Lad, 10-1 Bowlers Boy, Pageboy, 12-1 Captain Carat, 14-1 others

5.00 WOODMANSEY APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (£2,435: 1m 1f 207yd) (18)

1	0566	WHITLEY GRANGE BOY 136 J Eyre 4-10-0	S Buckley 11
2	506-	SMOKE'N'JO 364 M W Easterby 3-9-6	P Bradley 6
3	-000	AIRBORNE HARRIS 7 (V) A Bailey 4-9-5	I Hudson (5) 5
4	3456	RICCARTON 15 P Calver 4-9-4	R Farmer (5) 1
5	3000	WAGGA MOON 14 J J O'Neill 3-9-3	S Olley (5) 10
6	4230	POKER PRINCESS 36 M Bell 3-9-2	D Young (5) 14
7	/025	FARFIELDS PRINCE 10 (BF) D Nicholls 5-9-1	A Nicholls 18
8	3040	BAAHETH 17 (B) S C Williams 3-8-6	D Williams 16
9	2440	SUN FAIRY 12 J Glover 3-8-4	T Pengkerego (5) 9
10	6026	JUNIOR BEN 9 M Sowersby 5-8-4	N Pollard 15
11	3000	YUPPY GIRL 10 J H Wilson 4-8-2	Angela Hartley 17
12	0-50	RIVERSIDE GIRL 19 J S Moore 3-8-1	P Cleary (5) 3
13	00-0	PROTARAS BAY 12 P Gilligan 3-8-0	P Clarke 13
14	5654	GROVEFAIR LAD 7 (V) M Wane 3-7-10	Jenny Benson 8
15	0066	NUKUD 13 (V) G Oldroyd 5-7-10	R Cody-Boutcher 12
16	4560	SILENT SYSTEM 46 (B) D Chapman 4-7-10	J McAuley 4
17	0005	INTREPID FORT 22 (V) B Murray 8-7-10	C Cogan 7
18	4060	PETULA BOY 8 (B) S Bowring 3-7-10	F Boyle 2

11-2 Farfields Prince, 7-1 Riccarton, Sun Fairy, 8-1 Poker Princess, 10-1 Wagga Moon, Riverside Girl, 12-1 Whitley Grange Boy, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Walwyn, 4 winners from 13 runners, 30.8%; M Wane, 5 from 18, 27.8%; M Bell, 9 from 33, 27.3%; P Chapple-Hyam, 4 from 17, 23.5%; D Morley, 10 from 49, 20.4%.

JOCKEYS: K Darley, 61 winners from 260 rides, 23.5%; M Fenton, 15 from 71, 21.1%; D Holland, 10 from 61, 16.4%; J Carroll, 17 from 109, 15.6%; T Sprake, 3 from 22, 13.6%; T Lucas, 5 from 40, 12.5%.

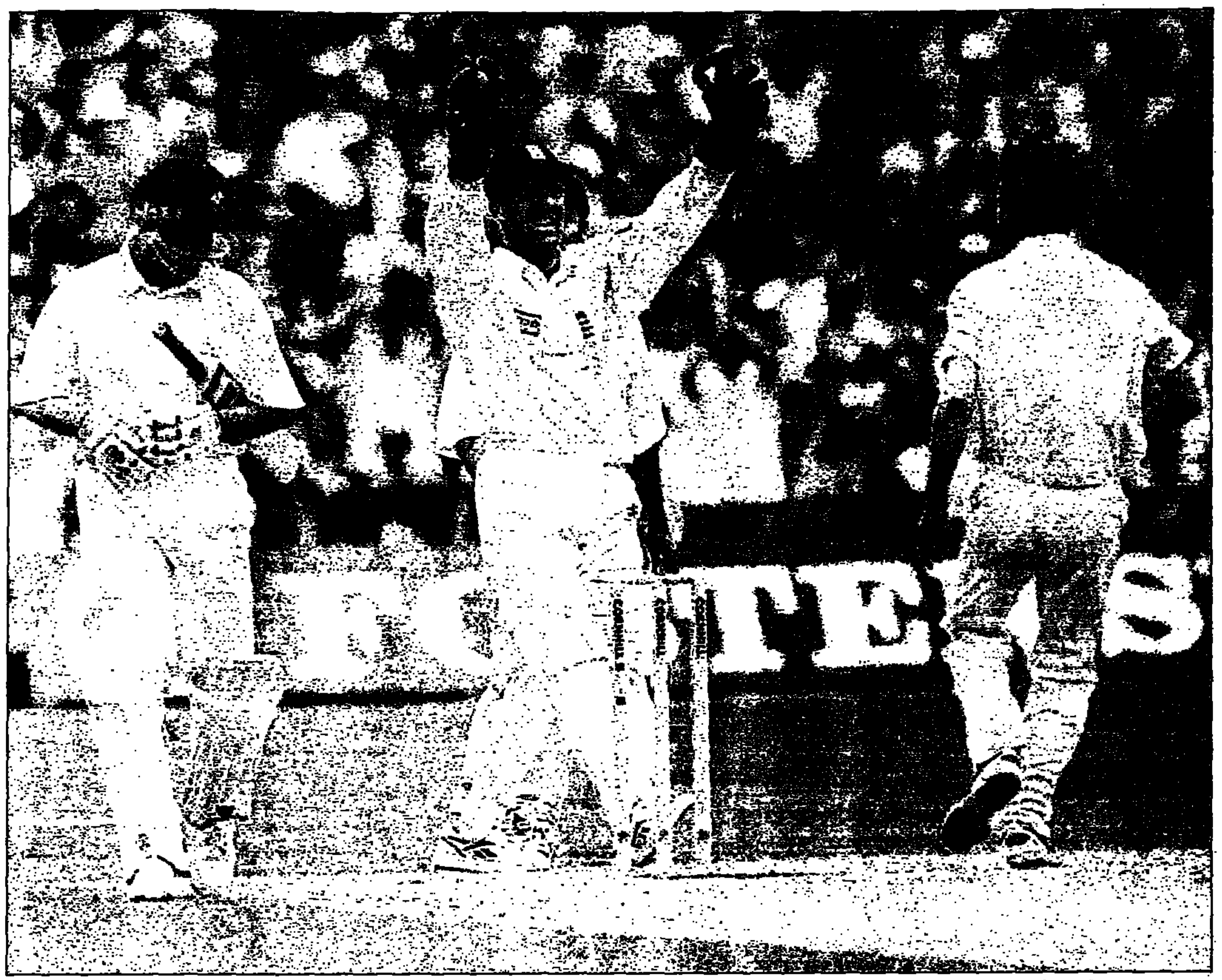
هكذا من الأهل

Spin bowler's triumphant day unlikely to change Atherton's mind

Tufnell makes Australia struggle

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE OVAL (second day of five): England, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 14 runs ahead of Australia



Stewart, having retrieved the ball from between his thighs, awaits Tufnell's thanks for dismissing Healy. Photograph: Dave Thomson

ENGLAND'S long-suffering public, struck dumb by the speed and severity of Ashes surrender, found its voice yesterday and acclaimed a rediscovered hero. The roars of applause for Phil Tufnell had barely died away, however, when another exhibition of shell-shocked batting restored the mood of misery.

Tufnell, playing his first home Test match for more than three years, bowled unchanged for 35 overs on a dry, flaking pitch to take seven for 64. In a turbulent England career, littered with incident and disappointment, he has never bowled better. Australia's lead was restricted to 38 and, briefly, the horrors of the opening day were forgotten as the Oval crowd anticipated a startling victory.

They should have known better. England lost three wickets while still in debit, among them Michael Atherton for his seventh single-figure score of the series. His technique is disorientated and his mind must be in turmoil. This match may be lost some time today; if and when it is, Atherton will surely call a halt to his vain, valiant struggle with the captaincy of a losing team.

Atherton is a strong and obstinate character but no man can indefinitely shoulder such a burden. England have no obvious successor but if the job is now lowering his quality of life, not to mention the quality of his batting, his basic honesty will persuade him to stand down.

Much of yesterday's cricket will have cheered him but, I sense, his mind was already made up. The likelihood is that he will resign with dignity and, private man that he is, seek leave of absence from county cricket for a few days of rest and reflection.

He should know, at least, that there was nothing more he could have done to improve England's predicament here, unless it was to score a lot more runs. Some of England's cricket has been appalling but, in the field, Atherton coped manfully.

When the seamers were profligate, he took them off; when Tufnell began to mesmerise, he supported him with positive, imaginative fields. This, demonstrably, was not Australia's day and for much of it they were toiling to gain any sort of first-innings advantage.

Drizzle interrupted play twice in the opening hour and Australia, pinned down by Tufnell and an improved Malcolm, had added only 17 from 11 overs when they lost their third wicket. It was a classic left-arm spinner's dismissal, a ball bowled from round the wicket turning and bouncing. Mark Waugh could only glove it to silly point and retreat with an aggregate for the series of only 208 runs.

Tufnell, in his thirteenth over, now boasted figures of three for 11. Already, it was a triumphant comeback, one guaranteed to send him to the Caribbean in January. Better was to come, though only after Blewett and Steve Waugh had added 44, a considerable partnership by the parlous standards of this match.

In the fifth over of the afternoon, Caddick intruded on Tufnell's private party. If his leg-before verdict against Waugh owed a little to generosity — the ball had a good chance of missing leg stump — it was no more than he deserved for a probing, persevering spell.

Tufnell quickly struck again, a curious dismissal but a vital one. Blewett, whose 45 remains the highest score of the game, connected with the back of the bat as he swept and Stewart took an acrobatic leg-side catch. Healy, normally perpetual motion, was now becalmed and, after making only two in 50 minutes, he seemed almost grateful to leave the stage.

The third umpire reprieved him when Stewart claimed a stumping but, later in the same Tufnell over, he was once more beaten by turn and Stewart caught the edge, a shade unconventionally, between his legs. Tufnell was now rampant, especially with a left-hander to bowl at. Shaun Young has not, thus far, had a debut to relish but the ball that dismissed him for nought, leaping out of the rough, was close to unplayable.

If Shane Warne is ultimately the key figure of this game, it will not entirely be for his bowling. He now wielded the long handle to considerable effect, driving Tufnell straight for six in making a rapid 30. He should have been caught by Martin, who embarrassingly misjudged a skier at deep mid-wicket, but the eighth-wicket stand of 41 has assumed immense relevance.

Caddick had to be recalled to remove Warne and Kasprowicz with consecutive balls but, fittingly, Tufnell finished the job. It was an appropriate ball, too, turning venomously to take the edge of Ponting's bat after a lengthy and vigilant 40.

Only the other day, Tufnell had been musing on the scarcity of receptive pitches he has had to bowl on this summer. Certainly, he has had nothing to match this one but, while he exploited it to the full, its nature was entirely against England's preference. They, after all, had Warne to deal with.

Ironically, however, Warne's entrance to the attack was delayed by two early successes for Kasprowicz. In his fourth over, he had Atherton thick-edging to gully as he drove with the face of the bat too open. In his next, Stewart was leg-before for the second time in the match. Between them, England's two senior batsmen have totalled 525 runs in the series at a combined average of just 23, a figure that goes some way to explaining their chronic problems.

Mark Waugh, summoned to sustain play in grim light, took his first wicket of the series as Butcher missed a full toss but Hussain, grimly, and Thorpe, aggressively, prevented further loss. Warne has yet to strike, a situation that may not prevail too long into today. England need a cushion of 200 to have a realistic chance. It is hard to say where such runs could come from.

SCOREBOARD FROM THE OVAL

ENGLAND: First Innings 180 (G D McGrath 7 for 76).

Second Innings

M A Butcher lbw b M E Waugh (69min, 48 balls, 2 fours)	13
*M A Atherton c S R Waugh b Kasprowicz (29min, 21 balls, 1 four)	8
†A J Stewart lbw b Kasprowicz (11min, 9 balls)	3
N Hussain not out (61min, 47 balls)	2
G P Thorpe not out (33min, 37 balls, 4 fours)	22
Extras (b 2, lb 2)	4
Total (3 wkts, 27 overs, 103min)	52

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20 (Butcher 12), 2-24 (Butcher 12), 3-26 (Hussain 1)

BOWLING: McGrath 7-2-15-0 (2 fours, one spell); Kasprowicz 6-3-8-2 (1 four, one spell); Warne 7-5-9-0 (1 four, one spell) M E Waugh 7-3-16-1 (3 fours, one spell)

SCORING NOTES: Second day: Bad light stopped play at 6 25pm. Play abandoned at 6.44pm

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M T G Elliott b Tufnell (51min, 33 balls, 1 four)	12
*M A Taylor c Hollioake b Tufnell (60min, 42 balls, 7 fours)	38
G S Blewett c Stewart b Tufnell (158min, 132 balls, 4 fours)	45
M E Waugh c Butcher b Tufnell (80min, 69 balls, 2 fours)	19
S R Waugh lbw b Caddick (51min, 34 balls, 2 fours)	22
R T Ponting c Hussain b Tufnell (134min, 96 balls, 1 six, 3 fours)	40
†I A Healy c Stewart b Tufnell (50min, 34 balls)	2
S Young c Stewart b Tufnell (7min, 3 balls)	0
S K Warne b Caddick (39min, 34 balls, 1 six, 3 fours)	30
M S Kasprowicz lbw b Caddick (1min, 1 ball)	0
G D McGrath not out (12min, 5 balls)	1
Extras (b 3, w 1, nb 5)	9
Total (79.3 overs, 327min)	218

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49 (Taylor 35), 2-54 (Blewett 2), 3-94 (Blewett 20), 4-138 (Blewett 40), 5-148 (Ponting 5), 6-162 (Ponting 17), 7-162 (Ponting 17), 8-203 (Ponting 27), 9-203 (Ponting 27)

BOWLING: Malcolm 11-2-37-0 (nb 1; 5 fours: 4-1-20-0, 7-1-17-0); Martin 15-5-38-0 (nb 2, w 1; 1 six, 2 fours; 5-1-18-0, 3-1-8-0, 7-3-12-0); Caddick 19-4-76-3 (nb 1; 8 fours; 6-1-24-0, 10-2-36-1, 3-1-16-2); Tufnell 34.3-16-64-7 (nb 2; 1 six, 7 fours; one spell)

SCORING NOTES: Second day: Lunch: 125-3 (44 overs, 176min; Blewett 38, S R Waugh 12) Tea: 198-7 (73 overs, 296min; Ponting 26, Warne 16) Rain stopped play 11 09-11 29am and 3 40pm (tea taken).

Umpires: L H Barker (West Indies) and P Willey Third umpire: K E Palmer. Match referee: C W Smith (West Indies).

SERIES DETAILS: First (Edgbaston): England won by nine wickets. Second (Lord's) match drawn. Third (Old Trafford): Australia won by 268 runs. Fourth (Headingley): Australia won by an innings and 61 runs. Fifth (Trent Bridge): Australia won by 264 runs

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Wicketkeepers know there is no place to hide

Simon Barnes says Stewart's willingness to fulfil a dual role has been his undoing

Sport can make you a hero. Sport can make you a duffer, too, of course. But that is not the worst of it. Sport, more than any form of public life, and perhaps cricket more than any other sport can turn a decent person into a national laughing stock. Adam Hollioake shouldering arms to be clean bowled on Thursday; Nasser Hussain trying to play Shane Warne; and Alec Stewart keeping wicket for England yesterday.

His presence of mind in jamming thigh against thigh resulted in what must be the champagne moment of the cricketing summer. The ball, bowled by the mesmeric Phil Tufnell, flew off the edge of the bat. Alas, poor Alec — his gauntlets were not even within easy commuting distance of the ball.

But his mighty thighs did the job. The ball performed a perfect cannon shot, as in billiards, and rather after the fashion of a "Carry On" film, and before you could say "Ooh, Matron," Stewart rummaged between his two aforementioned mighty thighs, and produced, for all to see, a cricket ball.

'You can't go away to somewhere where the heat is off'

This Little Jack Horner dismissal lit Stewart's face with a most perfect mixture of feelings. The man whose mother-in-law drove his Porsche over a cliff can only begin to comprehend the battle within poor Alec, as joy fought for mastery over the most hideous embarrassment.

The trouble with being a 'keeper a fraction off your game is that you still have to face every ball bowled. You can't go away to a place where the heat is off, like a butter-fingered slipper. You can't go to long leg for a graze, like a bowler whose rhythm is awry. You can't lurk at the non-striker's end, like a batsman beaten three times in the previous over. You just have to squat down and fake it. Or try to. And that is the horror and joy of wicketkeeping. Believe me, I have earned the right to speak with feeling on the subject.

Coming into a Test match unsure of yourself — not that Stewart had ever in recorded history admitted to such a state — the last thing a 'keeper needs is to spend the entire day keeping to a spinner who is doing a bit. Tufnell was doing a lot. There is a story of David Bairstow brandishing his gauntlets at Derek Underwood. "You try and hit these. Deadly! Because they ain't moving anywhere."

To add to Stewart's embarrassment, his victim, to use the term loosely, in the thigh-nestling incident, was Ian Healy, who has had a blinding series; his batting has fed on the confidence of his stupendous performances behind the stumps.

Healy is certainly the best in the world right now. One could make a case for his being among the best ever. Certainly few things were more lovely than his stumping of Butcher off Bevan's full bunger.

A 'keeper on the top of his game is a fearful thing. The more certain he is of his handling, the louder he gets. A batsman knows he will not get away with a thing, a bleak and terrible feeling. Healy is so loud and so confident that you can see him smile *before* he catches an edge. In mid-dive the man is smirking. Deadly indeed.

And Alec had missed stumping Healy a couple of balls earlier. Always especially embarrassing, when you miss stumping a stumper. Then the punchline, and the ball between the thighs. Alec, a man more stumped against than stumping.

I have been unkind. Stewart is a terrific cricketer, and a wonderfully willing one. He can keep wicket too — better standing back, in what people always call "goalkeeper style", a term I always took rather literally, forever turning them round the post for byes.

Talking of willing cricketers, what about Jack Russell? A better stumper than Stewart, especially standing up, and a terrific batsman, especially when England are up against it. He would have had plenty of opportunity to exercise that talent had he been picked for this series.

As it was, Stewart has taken the gloves, and done his best. He has done his best with the bat, too. Statistics still show him to be a far better batsman when he does not keep wicket. England's shortcomings in other areas have persuaded the selectors to discard the best attacking batsman they have — Stewart as pure batsman — and the best stumper too.

It is the rule of life that winning cricketers — perhaps winning anythings — tend to get dumped on from a dizzy height. Call in the Randall Syndrome. Stewart's willingness has been his undoing. A good player, always, even in his embarrassment. But he might just have been a very good batsman indeed. We shall never know.

Major conflict is purely academic

SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

FACTS are unpopular things in any argument, but when it comes to a row about sport or politics, then the person who seeks to introduce a fact is nothing less than the subject of a Bateman cartoon. The latest sporting row is also the latest political row: the British Academy of Sport, the proposed Lottery-funded multimillion-quid salvation of British sport, initially announced that it would exclude such minority interest team sports as cricket, rugby union and football. This even awoke John Major from his self-imposed post-election silence and had him howling about "political spite".

Fact: all the country's national sporting bodies were asked for their thoughts on a sporting academy last year. Fact: the Test and County Cricket Board, as it then was, responded that "cricket requires its own customized facility to promote technical development at the highest level ... ideally, these should be independent of other sports". In other words, an academy is a good idea, but we don't want it unless we can have it all to ourselves.

Fact: the Rugby Football Union was even more negative. It said that it "is strongly opposed to the creation of more national training facilities over and above those already provided throughout England". Fact: there is a row because the Government is trying to do exactly what these two sporting bodies asked of them.

Hair today ...

Baggio: a nation mourns. Yes, Roberto Baggio, footballer of Italy and Bologna, nicknamed *il codino divino*, "the divine pony-tail", has cut the damn thing off. It now lies in a drawer at his home. "We are talking about a new epoch," *La Repubblica*, the Italian newspaper, said.

"We are not talking about something done out of necessity, as in the cases of Andre Agassi or Gianluca Vialli, who shaved their heads before anyone noticed they were going bald. This is something much bigger than when Ruud Gullit thinned out his dreadlocks ... the pony-tail became a part of literature." Baggio said: "I was tired of having long hair." He grew the pony-tail seven years ago, when he became a Buddhist.

☐ *More on footballing affectations: Luis Oliveira, that rare thing, a Brazilian footballer with two names (born in Brazil, but in fact a Belgium international) and a striker with Fiorentina, already dripping with jewellery — necklace, bracelet, earrings — has painted his fingernails green.*

Smoking drive

This column is always eager to bring you news of the latest equipment for the golfer, so I am proud to tell you about the Tee-Gar, a device for holding your cigar while you are playing your shot. It was invented by John Photakis, of Worcester, Massachusetts, and he has sold half a million of them at $2.95 a go. Photakis kept hearing complaints from golfers who put their cigars on the ground and then became concerned about the chemicals they picked up while lying there.

Numbers game

How good a cricket captain is Michael Atherton? Or to put it another way, how bad? Here are some figures that mean — well, like most figures, just about anything you want. They are the records of Test match captains who have presided over more than 15 defeats.

	P	W	L	D
A Border (Aus)	93	32	22	38
M Atherton (Eng)	45	11	16	18
Nawab of Pataudi (India)	40	9	19	12
A Ranatunga (SL)	43	7	15	21
D Gower (Eng)	32	5	18	9
J Reid (NZ)	34	3	18	13

Note that Atherton has the second highest wins total, and the second lowest number of defeats. His win/loss difference of minus five is also second best. All the same, it is time to get your Atherton obituary sharpened up and ready for use.

Heavenly course

Darren Beadman is one of the top jockeys in Australia. He has won two Melbourne Cups and has been champion jockey twice. His income has been estimated at A$1 million a year. Now he is giving it all up to become a pastor at the Christian Life Centre. "Racing is so time-consuming I couldn't do bible college at the same time," he said. "God said to me to get my priorities right.

"I knew God was preparing me for something, and then He said: 'I want you to serve me now'. He knows me. He knows that I like to give things 100 per cent. To stay in racing would have been a compromise. I couldn't give Him all my heart and soul."

Worthy support

Here is a story for anybody interested in women's chests. Bruce Mason, of the Australian Institute of Sport, has been looking into the matter of breast pain during exercise. "This is a difficult subject to raise," he said. "Almost taboo. But the fact is that when you are exercising, pain is an indication of trauma." Up to 56 per cent of women who exercise suffer breast pain and an average breast, he said, bounces eight centimetres when its owner runs bra-less. This is reduced by 38.5 per cent with an ordinary bra, 42.5 per cent by an elastic crop top and by 55 per cent by a sports bra.

P. G.'s tip-top

One of the better cricket rows this season concerned Marlborough College, who, in their match against Radley College, refused to declare and batted on until just before 6pm, leaving Radley 18 overs to score 170. Marlborough had been irritated by the sledging of the Radley players. All sporting fixtures between the two schools have been suspended. As it happens, an almost identical situation is portrayed in a cricket story by P. G. Wodehouse, which has just been collected in what must be the cricket book of the season, *Wodehouse at the Wicket*, edited by my old friend, Murray Hedgcock.

Hedgcock's long introduction includes Wodehouse's own record as a cricketer — he was a pretty good quick bowler — and the record of the county player, Percy Jeeves. Among the treasures included, probably the best is "Reginald's Record Knock". "Reginald Humby was one of those men who go in just above the byes, and are to tired bowlers what the dew is to parched earth at the close of an August afternoon."

☐ The Nicolas Feuillatte Shane Warne Fizzometer at present stands at 22.

Flintoff steps into breach to stem Zimbabwe avalanche

BY JOHN STERN

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): England Under-19, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 430 runs behind Zimbabwe Under-19

AT THE very least, Zimbabwe Under-19 have proved to themselves and their opponents that they can no longer be taken lightly. However, if they are actually to win this second NatWest international and level the series, they will have to bowl considerably better than they did yesterday evening.

After declaring at 539 for five at five o'clock, having made the England bowlers look distinctly ordinary on this belter of a pitch, Zimbabwe's own attack then served up an enticing diet of long-hops and full tosses. Robert Key and Stephen Peters, the England opening batsmen, took only 16 overs to progress to 109 without loss before drizzle forced the players off.

Ryan Sidebottom's first ball of the day had disappeared to the cover boundary off the bat of Douglas Marillier, who having resumed on 107, took his score to 150 before being caught at slip by Zac Morris off Andrew Flintoff's medium pace just before lunch.

Flintoff, the England captain, used to be a genuine allrounder but a back injury has theoretically terminated his bowling aspirations. However, much of England's bowling in the morning session was so lamentable that Flintoff found himself unable to resist the temptation to enter the attack. He allowed himself only three overs but he took Marillier's wicket and did not concede a run in the process.

Neil Martin, of Middlesex, had a terrible time, unable to find rhythm or direction. As a result, his 17 overs cost 76 runs. Flintoff apart, the only England bowler to find anything approaching an acceptable line or length was Giles Haywood, from Sussex, whose main role in this game was to bat at No 3.

His outswingers, although looking gentle enough, provided the Zimbabwean batsmen with some of their more difficult momenets, and he had Mark Vermuelen leg-before shuffling across his stumps in the first over after lunch.

Vermuelen had made an excellent 134 from 292 balls with 27 fours, his century arriving with one of three fours he took from the fourteenth over of the day, bowled by Jonathan Powell, the Essex off spinner.

The pace of the innings slowed for a while but Mluleki Nkala, 16, picked it up again with an unbeaten century that took Zimbabwe beyond their desired target of 500. He also took a shine to Powell, pulling him for two sixes.

ZIMBABWE UNDER-19: First Innings

D A Marillier c Morris b Flintoff	150
J Oosthuizen retired hurt	6
M A Vermuelen lbw b Haywood	134
A P Hoffman b Sidebottom	23
M L Nkala not out	101
*A J Erasmus c Read b Schofield	27
A G Steyn c Morris b Powell	1
†C Delport not out	50
Extras (b 4, lb 11, w 16, nb 14)	47
Total (5 wkts dec)	539

N Ferreira, I A Englebrecht and D Mutendera did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-297, 2-328, 3-346, 4-435, 5-436

BOWLING: Martin 17-1-76-0; Sidebottom 25-7-91-1; Haywood 15-6-39-1; Swann 12-5-19-0; Schofield 37.3-8-127-1; Powell 31-9-128-1; Morris 6-1-44-0; Flintoff 3-3-0-1.

ENGLAND UNDER-19: First Innings

S D Peters not out	61
R W T Key not out	48
Total (no wkt)	109

G R Haywood, *A Flintoff, Z C Morris, G P Swann, †C R M Read, C Schofield, J C Powell, N D Martin and R J Sidebottom to bat.

BOWLING: Steyn 4-0-28-0; Mutendera 4-0-30-0; Englebrecht 4-0-30-0; Vermuelen 4-0-21-0

Umpires: H D Bird and N T Plews.

Lara ready to return

WARWICKSHIRE are confident that Brian Lara will be back at Edgbaston next season.

The record-breaking West Indies batsman played for the county in 1994 when he helped them to win the county championship, the Benson and Hedges Cup and the Sunday league.

Warwickshire officials are keen to complete the arrangements for Lara's return as soon as possible. Stewart Dalrymple, the commercial director, said: "We are 99 per cent confident of getting Brian for next season.

"We are just waiting on the West Indies Cricket Board. We have talked to Brian and his agent and we are happy that we have reached an agreement with them.

"But what we need is some commitment from the West Indies Cricket Board about when he is actually going to be available because their season ends just as ours is beginning."

CRICKET

Ealham and Cowdrey keep Kent in hunt

By Ivo Tennant

TAUNTON (third day of four): Somerset, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 23 runs behind Kent

FOR a side intent on winning the Britannic Assurance championship, Kent have not come up with the requisite number of runs from their upper order this season. Yesterday, though, Graham Cowdrey made his first century of the summer, mostly batting with Mark Ealham, who struck 105. They put on 183 in 50 overs, bringing about a first-innings lead before taking one Somerset wicket before the close.

It was, too, a partnership between a Kentish Man and a Man of Kent, this in a largely home-grown side. In a season in which he has been hampered by injury and the distraction of taking a benefit (which is going markedly well) Cowdrey has had his excuses for not making as many runs as he would have liked, although he would not think in those terms. He played and missed a good deal at the start of his innings, which was never other than thoroughly dogged.

Ealham, by contrast, is in some form. This was his third championship century of the season, reached with a clumped six over mid-wicket off Herzberg, a one-time county colleague. He did not look as if he could read Mushtaq Ahmed, just as evidently he found Shane Warne hard to pick this summer in the cauldron of Test cricket. But then who does not?

It is axiomatic that this was an invaluable partnership for Kent, who were looking to return to the top of the championship table. When Ealham came in, they were struggling somewhat at 121 for four. Smith, unbeaten with 45 overnight, reached the first of what should be many half-centuries for his county, but shortly afterwards was caught off bat and pad off Mushtaq. He had struck nine fours.

There was still some life in the pitch, but the extent to which Ecclestone, the Somerset acting captain, was handicapped by his attack can be gauged from the analyses of his two opening bowlers. Van Troost and Shine had 19 overs between them, did not manage a maiden and conceded 120 runs. Even then, Herzberg was not brought on until the last over before lunch, a stereotyped act of captaincy. So Mushtaq was over-bowled, although that would not have been for the first time.

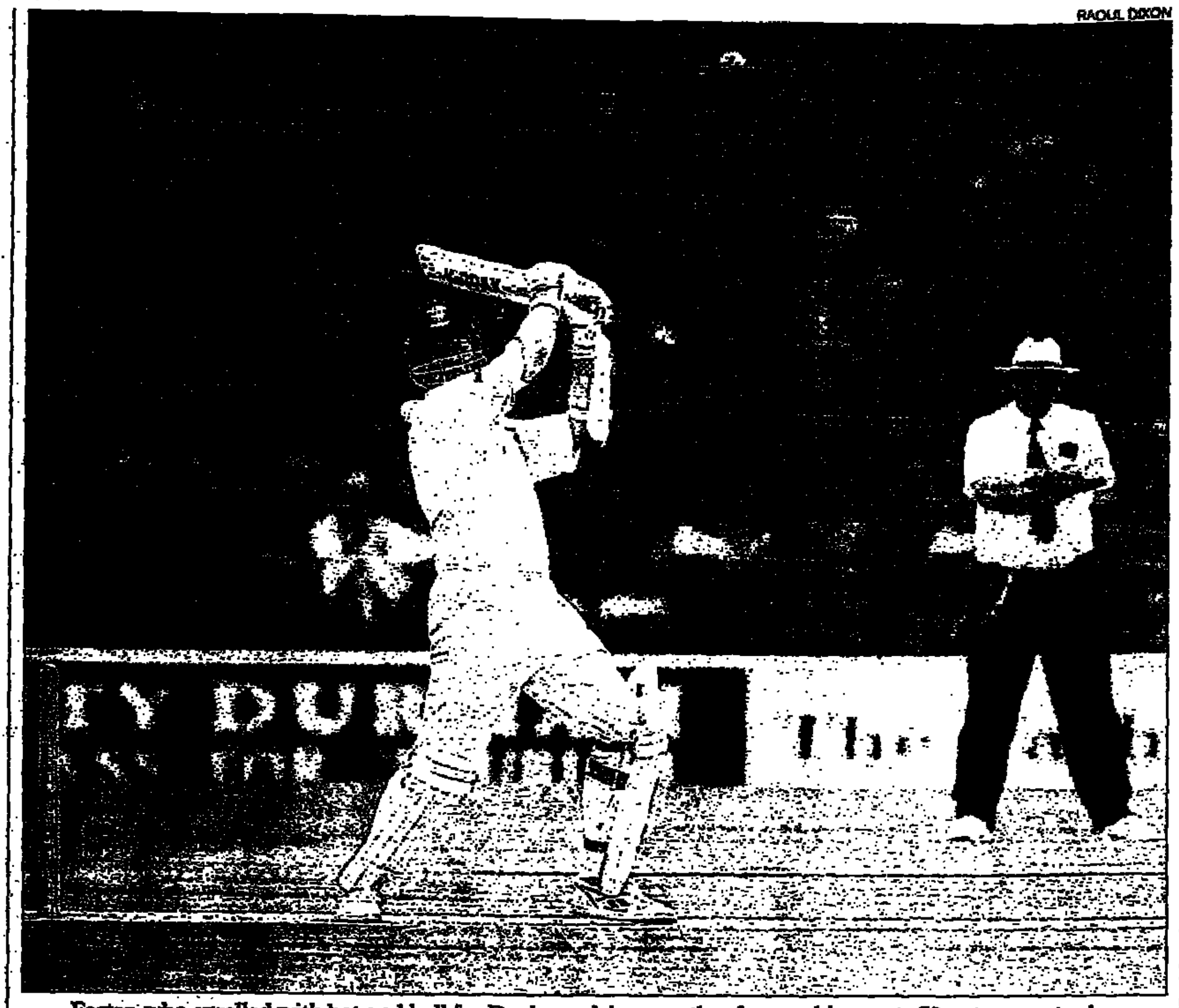
He eventually broke the significant partnership, but Kent were looking to gain a first-innings lead by then. Cowdrey, who drove to mid-off, struck 12 fours and faced, in reaching his century, 185 balls. His previous highest score of the season was 53 in Kent's victory over Essex in Canterbury week, so this was as important to him as it was to his side. He and Ealham, whose century was achieved in marginally better time, with 13 fours and that six, ran exceptionally well between the wickets.

Few were as quick on a cricket field as Alan Ealham, but his son, who has the added responsibility of having to bowl, would have been a match for him now. After he was out, misjudging one from Herzberg which turned and hit his off stump, Fleming came in and struck a half-century in his characteristically ebullient way. He chose to walk when he was caught at the wicket down the leg side. The umpire, Alan Whitehead, did not give him out.

Herzberg took a third wicket through bowling Phillips, whereupon McCague came in and made his first notable contribution to the match, striking four fours. When Strang was held off a skier to cover, Kent had gained a lead of 74. In the 16 overs that remained, they removed Turner, a century-maker in the first innings, caught at the wicket playing defensively at Phillips.

McCague did not take the field after his innings. He has a back problem, even though he bowled only 13 balls on Wednesday before he was removed from the attack. It will be looked at today.

Ealham: fine form



RAOUL DIXON

Foster, who excelled with bat and ball for Durham, drives another four on his way to 70 not out yesterday

Middlesex keep Nash in reserve

By Alastair Storie

CHESTER-LE-STREET (third day of four): Durham, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 120 runs ahead of Middlesex

DURHAM, who have managed one draw and four defeats in first-class cricket against Middlesex, yesterday reversed the roles and had the visitors fighting to stave off the follow-on.

At 133 for seven and still requiring 61, Middlesex's fears were allayed by David Nash, 19, the reserve wicketkeeper, who in his first championship innings scored a compact 94 from 180 balls, and Richard Johnson, who made 39. Nash hit nine fours and a bizarre six, which combined a run single and five penalty runs for the ball striking Speight's abandoned glove on return.

Durham fell seven short of their first haul of maximum batting points since June last year, and in doing so lost the services of their most influential bowler, Simon Brown, who bruised his left hand fending off a steepling ball from Johnson. The loss was significant since Durham's other three seam bowlers, well as they performed, could not sustain the pressure throughout the day.

Apart from Gatting, who received a perfect leg-cutter from Betts, the Middlesex batsmen were to a man complicit in their own downfall. The pitch displayed some uneven bounce and required someone with technical proficiency to become entrenched.

Pooley, however, padded up to the first ball of the innings and Shah drove a loosener from Foster to mid-off. Foster, who had earlier finished on 70 with the bat, then tempted Kallis into a forcing shot and Brown into the hook. Weekes did little to ease the ensuing crisis by dragging a ball from Walker on to his stumps while driving expansively.

Nash, though, played with composure beyond his years and combined linear defence with well-timed, wristy leg-side strokes. He made his debut at Fenner's earlier this year and with his combined abilities he will be a real asset to his club in the future.

Thoughts of a century on his championship debut grew as Fraser lent stout defiance and encouragement for the last wicket. With a declaration imminent, however, he chanced his arm once too often and provided Boiling with his third wicket.

Middlesex must win this match to sustain any championship challenge, but this appears to be likely only if Durham approach their second innings today with that same attitude and permit them a run chase in the afternoon.

Robinson back to his cautious best

By Richard Hobson

WORKSOP (third day of four): Essex, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 99 runs ahead of Nottinghamshire

NOT since his days as a callow youth attempting to catch the eye of Clive Rice has Tim Robinson endured as lean a summer as this. That somebody else will finish atop the Nottinghamshire batting averages seems unthinkable and, after 13 successive innings without a 50, it was understandable if his right to a place in the side was under question when he walked out to bat yesterday.

"Crisis? What crisis?," Robinson might well have asked. His response was typical. This is not to say that he fleeced the Essex attack, for his pragmatic method is a triumph of function over flair.

There are times when he might be wearing blinkers rather than a helmet. A paradigm of caution, he simply waited for the balls he wanted to hit, worked them into the areas of his choice and ignored the rest.

The result was his first century of 1997, a chanceless affair, in 275 minutes from 244 balls and with 14 fours. Most of those boundaries were either pulled in textbook manner or steered wide of the fielding cordon on the off side. It was like watching the man who scored a brace of Test hundreds against Australia in 1985, the last time England won the Ashes at home.

He has developed a particular fondness for the Essex attack and could not have wished for a flatter pitch on which to recover his form. After Napier had removed Dowman leg-before on the back foot with the eighth ball of his debut, Robinson put on 193 in 59 overs with Nathan Astle, who eventually fell for the second time this season on 100.

It was not quite the hare and the tortoise, though from an entertainment viewpoint one would not wish for a Robinson at each end.

Astle timed the ball as sweetly as anybody hitherto and raised his century by pulling Such for six to add to his 16 fours. He batted for 169 minutes before he drove Cowan weakly towards cover, where Danny Law held the chance at the second attempt.

Johnson embellished the innings with 41 from 40 balls and declared 89 runs in arrears of 351 for three when he holed to Grayson after Nottinghamshire had secured a fourth batting point. Such a gesture suggests that he feels the surface will not crumble and assist the spinners, as is the norm here.

If Prichard, his Essex counterpart, agrees, he will face a stiff fourth-innings target this afternoon.

Illingworth leads the way with another century

By Jack Bailey

EDGBASTON (third day of four): Warwickshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 188 runs behind Worcestershire

RICHARD ILLINGWORTH duly scored the 24 runs he needed to complete the fourth century of his career — his third as nightwatchman — and Graeme Hick, who is more used to this kind of thing, made one too. Together, they added 239 for the third Worcestershire wicket, having set out on their long journey late on Wednesday evening with their team's score standing at nine for two and the Warwickshire bowlers rampant.

Two days later Warwickshire were looking at a deficit of 196 and wore the jaded look of a side who knew their chances of victory had receded almost beyond recall. Tom Moody and Steven Rhodes had insured that the good work of Hick and Illingworth was not wasted. Moody had just become Worcestershire's third and fastest century-maker and Warwickshire had been batted out of the game.

Missed chances had cost Warwickshire dear on Thursday and continued to haunt them yesterday. Only six overs had been bowled when Illingworth, having added five to his overnight 76, was put down by Welch at second slip off Brown. Slowly, if unsurely, Illingworth plodded on.

He spent seven overs on 99, but reached his century before Hick reached his. When taken behind the wicket, he had batted for six hours and 20 minutes.

Hick lingered even longer for his 122. His fifth century of the season contained his thousandth run and it was the 95th century of his career. He had been subdued, watchful and, as later seen on TV, lucky to get away with a disputed catch on Thursday; but his had been an invaluable innings, taking the heart out of Warwickshire's attack.

Hick reached his century in the grand manner with a long, straight six, his bat held aloft in acknowledgement before the ball sailed over the boundary.

Moody was magnificent — to start with at any rate. He was soon taking four successive fours off Bell's medium-paced seamers. Nor, some three hours later, did he hang around in the nervous 90s. He went from 90 to 100 with a four and a six off successive balls. It was his first championship century of the season and, with the pitch showing signs of wear and tear, it could not have come at a better time for Worcestershire's championship hopes.

Yorkshire delayed as former players entertain

By Derek Hodgson

SCARBOROUGH (third day of four): Yorkshire (22pts) beat Sussex (4) by nine wickets

SUSSEX, 41 for six overnight and still 84 behind, at least died in a shoot-out, like Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, played on this occasion by Paul Jarvis and Mark Robinson. In an impossible position when rain arrived on Thursday afternoon, they attacked on a fine clear morning, forcing Yorkshire to bat again, needing 13, and claiming Anthony McGrath's wicket to force the contest into the afternoon.

A good Yorkshire crowd — admission was free — loved it all. This was a plot with the right ending, a comprehensive win, with the odd twist and turn involving two former Tykes, Jarvis and Robinson, both of whom were applauded to and from the wicket as if they were still wearing the white rose. In all this the rest of the Sussex team were no more than spear-carriers.

Jarvis laid about him for eight fours in his fourth half-century of the season. Justin Bates proving an able partner, the pair adding 33 in eight overs before Paul Hutchison, who was presented with his second XI cap on the field, performed his now familiar trick of persuading the batsman to play for outswing at a ball that straightened. Jarvis added another 23 with Amer Khan, lashing into Chris Silverwood, before Craig White took two wickets in three overs to, seemingly, wrap it up.

But there was still Robinson, who rallied Alex Edwards into believing that respect could still be won, the final pair adding another 27. McGrath's fall, driving at Edwards, meant that Yorkshire had to lunch on the brink. These points do take them to fourth place and, had they beaten Hampshire, as they should have in the previous match, they would now be strong contenders.

They do play two of the challengers, Worcestershire and Kent, on the unpredictable Headingley square and are away to dangerous strugglers, Lancashire and Derbyshire. If they can win at Old Trafford in their next match and if Darren Gough, still under treatment on his left knee, returns to form and fitness, listen for the distant drums.

Sussex are clearly in the throes of deep self-analysis and must have noted Michael Bevan's reported remark yesterday that he would "play for anybody next year but Yorkshire". If he does return to another county next summer, their match against Yorkshire should be worth watching.

Waqar's ambitions gathering pace

By Simon Wilde

ABERGAVENNY (third day of four): Northamptonshire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 122 runs ahead of Glamorgan

WHEN the Principality calls on sporting saviours it expects them to provide. Viv Richards gave Glamorgan a trophy and was suitably relieved — he went down on his knee in the Canterbury pavilion when they won the Axa Equity & Law League four years ago — and Waqar Younis knows that anything less than the championship this year means that he will have failed in his mission.

He indicated as much yesterday with one of his best spells — if not the best — of the season at a crucial stage of a match vital to his team's hopes. On a pitch as flat, lifeless and dry as those in his native Pakistan, he bowled wonderfully to break the back of the Northamptonshire second innings after Matthew Maynard, his captain, put the ball back into his opponents' court by declaring 24 runs ahead.

Maynard was probably thinking more in terms of leaving open the possibility of a run-chase today than dismissing Northamptonshire cheaply, but that changed as Waqar and Watkin, refreshed by a 90-minute afternoon break for rain, reduced them to 61 for five. Waqar, operating to a searching off-stump line and swinging the ball away late, claimed three wickets in the space of eight balls.

His movement meant that there was little that Warren and Bailey, his first two victims, could do to save themselves. Warren was caught by Maynard diving to his right at second slip, Bailey caught at the wicket to his sixth ball. The downfall of Curran, the first-innings century-maker, was less excusable. He fell into a carefully laid trap by carving his fifth ball into the hands of fly slip.

Bailey's wicket gave Waqar his fiftieth first-class victim of the season, a landmark he achieved in each of his three summers with Surrey. Waqar's quixotic form has been a disappointment, to some — when he arrived the talk was more of him topping 100 wickets than 50 — but this was fine bowling in unpromising circumstances.

Either side of Waqar's burst, Watkin removed Roberts and Fordham via miscued pulls. Fordham's dismissal completed by a fine, low catch by Evans, but as Glamorgan strove for a sixth wicket their fielding let them down and, with Sales and Ripley determined to hit their way out of trouble and surviving more through luck than good judgment, Northamptonshire's lead took on challenging proportions.

Glamorgan will not want to chase more than 250 today, especially as Maynard left the field late in the day with a badly dislocated right index finger after missing a sharp chance in the slips. He went to hospital for an X-ray and may be unavailable today. His importance to his side was clear when they batted on in the morning. Of the 122 runs enterprisingly added in 85 minutes, he contributed 58.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Durham v Middlesex

CHESTER-LE-STREET (third day of four): Durham, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 120 runs ahead of Middlesex

DURHAM: First Innings

J J B Lewis lbw b Kallis	38
S Hutton c Brown b Johnson	29
J E Morris c Gatting b Johnson	0
*D C Boon c Weekes b Kallis	110
†M P Speight c Gatting b Kallis	9
R M S Weston c Gatting b Kallis	36
M J Foster c Kallis b Johnson	70
M M Betts c Shah b Dutch	11
J Boiling c Brown b Fraser	7
S J E Brown b Fraser	1
A Walker not out	0
Extras (b 7, lb 5, w 2, nb 18)	32
Total (108.3 overs)	343

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-65, 2-68, 3-131, 4-153, 5-239, 6-260, 7-285, 8-329, 9-339

BOWLING: Fraser 26-7-56-2; Hewitt 15-2-89-0; Kallis 21-6-98-4; Johnson 21.3-4-53-3; Dutch 16-2-34-1; Weekes 9-3-21-0.

Second Innings

J J B Lewis not out	14
S Hutton not out	10
Extras (w 4)	4
Total (no wkt)	28

BOWLING: Fraser 5-2-5-0; Johnson 1-0-4-0; *Dutch 3-0-19-0.*

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

J C Pooley b Betts	0
J H Kallis c Boon b Foster	31
M W Gatting b Betts	7
O A Shah c sub b Foster	14
†K R Brown c Speight b Foster	11
D C Nash c Lewis b Boiling	94
P N Weekes b Walker	1
K P Dutch c Morris b Boiling	10
R L Johnson c Weston b Boiling	39
J P Hewitt c Speight b Foster	4
A R C Fraser not out	5
Extras (b 4, lb 9, w 6, nb 16)	35
Total (81.5 overs)	251

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-18, 3-52, 4-78, 5-94, 6-101, 7-133, 8-211, 9-228.

BOWLING: Betts 21-10-51-2; Foster 19-4-58-4; Walker 18-6-48-1; Boiling 21.5-3-72-3; Boon 2-0-9-0.

Bonus points: Durham 7 Middlesex 6.

Umpires: B Dudleston and M J Kitchen

Glamorgan v Northamptonshire

ABERGAVENNY (third day of four): Northamptonshire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 122 runs ahead of Glamorgan

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings 330 *(K M Curran 159; Waqar Younis 4 for 78).*

Second Innings

R J Warren *c Maynard b Waqar*	12
D J Roberts c Cosker b Watkin	11
A Fordham c Evans b Watkin	25
*R J Bailey c Shaw b Waqar	2
K M Curran c James b Waqar	2
D J G Sales not out	56
†D Ripley not out	35
Extras (lb 2)	2
Total (5 wkts)	145

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-31, 3-33, 4-35, 5-61.

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 17-4-31-3; *Watkin 15-3-36-2; Croft 13-4-30-0;* Thomas 4-0-24-0; Cosker 8-3-23-0.

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P James run out	103
A W Evans c Curran b Davies	31
A Dale c Bailey b Brown	71
S D Thomas c Bailey b Davies	19
M J Powell not out	41
*M P Maynard c Fordham b Bailey	58
R D B Croft c Fordham b Bailey	15
Extras (b 1, lb 13, w 2)	16
Total (6 wkts dec, 89.2 overs)	354

†A D Shaw, Waqar Younis, S L Watkin and D A Cosker did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-84, 2-200, 3-232, 4-246, 5-332, 6-354.

BOWLING: Mohammad Akram 12-1-57-0; Taylor 13-1-49-0; Curran 9-4-17-0; Davies *29-5-108-2; Brown 24-3-90-1; Bailey 2.2-0-18-2.*

Bonus points: Glamorgan 8 Northamptonshire 5.

Umpires: G I Burgess and A Clarkson

Leicestershire v Derbyshire

LEICESTER (third day of four): Leicestershire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 349 runs ahead of Derbyshire

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 485 (V J Wells 190, G J Parsons 69 not out, J J Whitaker 81; P A J DeFreitas 5 for 120).

Second Innings

V J Wells c Harris b Clarke	93
D L Maddy lbw b DeFreitas	66
I J Sutcliffe not out	33
B F Smith not out	31
Extras (nb 6)	6
Total (2 wkts)	229

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-153, 2-171.

BOWLING: Cork 8-0-14-0; Harris 6-0-44-0; DeFreitas 16-1-69-1; Blackwell 6-0-57-0; Clarke 8-1-33-1; *May 1-0-12-0.*

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

A S Rollins not out	171
M R May c Nixon b Millns	2
C J Adams c and b Ormond	9
K J Barnett not out	147
Extras (b 8, lb 7, w 16, nb 6)	37
Total (2 wkts dec, 79 overs)	366

I Blackwell, V P Clarke, †K M Krikken, *P A J DeFreitas, D G Cork, A J Harris and P Aldred did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-50.

BOWLING: Millns 11-1-64-1; Ormond 17-0-110-1; *Parsons 14-2-53-0;* Pierson 17-0-52-0; Wells 12-4-18-0; Maddy 4-0-17-0; *Habib 4-0-37-0.*

Bonus points: Leicestershire 4 Derbyshire 8

Umpires. J H Hampshire and G Sharp

Nottinghamshire v Essex

WORKSOP (third day of four): Essex, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 99 runs ahead of Nottinghamshire

ESSEX: First Innings 440 for 7 dec (S G Law 115, D R Law 59).

Second Innings

*P J Prichard not out	6
D D J Robinson c Johnson b Oram	0
M C Ilott not out	1
Extras (lb 1, w 2)	3
Total (1 wkt)	10

FALL OF WICKET: 1-2

BOWLING: Bowen 5-2-7-0; Oram 4-3-2-1.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

M P Dowman lbw b Napier	27
R T Robinson not out	143
N J Astle c D R Law b Cowan	100
P Johnson c Grayson b Such	41
Extras (b 4, lb 12, w 14, nb 10)	40
Total (3 wkts dec, 99.3 overs)	351

A A Metcalfe, U Afzaal, C M Tolley, †W M Noon, K P Evans, M N Bowen and A R Oram did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-61, 2-254, 3-351

BOWLING: Ilott 16-6-49-0; Cowan 13-3-59-1; Such 26.3-4-78-1, S G Law 10-3-28-0; Grayson 24-5-71-0; Napier 8-3-40-1; D R Law 2-0-10-0

Bonus points. Nottinghamshire 6 Essex 5.

Umpires: D J Constant and J W Holder

Somerset v Kent

TAUNTON (third day of four): Somerset, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 23 runs behind Kent

SOMERSET: First Innings 375 (R J Turner 144, S C Ecclestone 123; B J Phillips 5 for 86).

Second Innings

†R J Turner c Marsh b Phillips	11
P C L Holloway not out	20
*S C Ecclestone not out	20
Total (1 wkt)	51

FALL OF WICKET. 1-18.

BOWLING. Phillips 4-0-12-1; Ealham 4-0-17-0, Strang 4-0-14-0; Fleming 3-2-4-0; *Ward 1-0-4-0.*

KENT: First Innings

D P Fulton lbw b Rose	16
E T Smith c Ecclestone b Mushtaq	56
T R Ward b Rose	8
A P Wells lbw b Rose	1
G R Cowdrey c Shine b Mushtaq	101
M A Ealham b Herzberg	105
M V Fleming c Turner b Herzberg	53
*†S A Marsh c Holloway b Mushtaq	18
P A Strang c Ecclestone b Mushtaq	24
B J Phillips b Herzberg	0
M J McCague not out	30
Extras (b 8, lb 8, w 4, nb 27)	47
Total (108.1 overs)	449

FALL OF WICKETS, 1-65, 2-77, 3-79, 4-121, 5-306, 6-344, 7-375, 8-425, 9-427.

BOWLING: Shine 12-0-70-0; Van Troost 7-0-50-0; Rose 22-5-60-3; Mushtaq Ahmed 37.1-10-114-4; Herzberg 22-1-100-3; Burns 8-1-39-0.

Bonus points. Somerset 8 Kent 8

Umpires: R A White and A G T Whitehead.

Warwickshire v Worcestershire

EDGBASTON (third day of four). Warwickshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 188 runs behind Worcestershire

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 252 (M M Mirza 4 for 51)

Second Innings

*N V Knight not out	6
A J Moles c Leatherdale b Moody	0
†K J Piper not out	2
Total (1 wkt)	8

FALL OF WICKET 1-2.

BOWLING: Illingworth 2-0-6-0; Moody 1-0-2-1

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

T S Curtis lbw b Brown	6
W P C Weston c Moles b Brown	2
R K Illingworth c Piper b Giles	112
G A Hick c Hemp b Giles	122
*T M Moody c Piper b Welch	108
D A Leatherdale c Moles b Welch	16
V S Solanki c Wagh b Brown	1
†S J Rhodes lbw b Brown	41
S R Lampitt b Brown	7
A Sheriyar lbw b Giles	3
M M Mirza not out	10
Extras (b 2, lb 10, w 6, nb 2)	20
Total	448

Score at 120 overs: 339-6

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-9, 3-248, 4-257, 5-296, 6-300, 7-383, 8-405, 9-414

BOWLING: Welch 34.1-9-96-2; Brown 38-7-118-5; Giles 38-10-77-3, Bell 27-4-101-0; *Smith 11-2-44-0*

Bonus points. Warwickshire 4 *Worcestershire 7.*

Umpires: J C Balderstone and B J Meyer

Yorkshire v Sussex

SCARBOROUGH (third day of four). Yorkshire (22pts) beat Sussex (4) by nine wickets

SUSSEX: First Innings 157 (M Newell 62 *not out, N R Taylor 57, P M Hutchison 5 for 48,* C E W Silverwood 4 for 27)

Second Innings

M T E Peirce lbw b Hutchison	8
R K Rao lbw b Silverwood	4
N R Taylor b Silverwood	14
M Newell run out	7
K Newell c White b Silverwood	0
*†P Moores lbw b Silverwood	0
P W Jarvis lbw b White	51
J J Bates lbw b Hutchison	11
A A Khan c Hamilton b White	4
A D Edwards not out	10
M A Robinson b Silverwood	18
Extras (lb 10)	10
Total	137

FALL OF WICKETS 1-5, 2-27, 3-27, 4-33, 5-33, 6-40, 7-74, 8-97, 9-110

BOWLING: Silverwood 13.4-2-59-5; Hutchison 13-1-44-2; Hamilton 2-1-2-0; White *9-1-18-2; Stemp 4-1-4-0*

YORKSHIRE: First Innings 282 (D S *Lehmann 67; M A Robinson 4 for 61,* P W Jarvis 4 for 82)

Second Innings

A McGrath c Moores b Edwards	2
M P Vaughan not out	8
*D Byas not out	3
Total (1 wkt)	13

FALL OF WICKET 1-2

BOWLING Edwards 4-2-6-1, Khan 3.3-2-7-0

Umpires: J D Bond and D R Shepherd

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Final day *of three: Hove: Durham 243 and 213 (M A Roseberry 58 not out, N C Phillips 7-66): Sussex 451 and 8-0. Sussex win by ten wickets.* Bristol: Essex 201 and 204 (A J E Hibbert 88 not out; J M M Averis 5-73): Gloucestershire 293 and 113-6 (D R Hewson 62 not out). Gloucestershire win by four wickets. *Derby:* Somerset 177 and 281-9 dec (C M Wells 67 not out; K J Dean 5-53); *Derbyshire 321-8 dec. Match drawn.* Old Trafford: Lancashire 271 and 23-0 dec, *Hampshire 18-1 dec and 130. Lancashire win by 146 runs.* Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire 389 and 187-5 (N A Gie 58, G F Archer 55); Kent 258-1 dec and 281-7 (J B Hockley 69, W J House 66). Match drawn. Campbell Park, Milton Keynes: Northamptonshire 331-9 dec and 241-2 dec (R R Montgomerie 121); *Yorkshire 265 and 254-5 (N G Russell 70, M J Wood 60).* Match drawn. Walmley: Leicestershire 305 and 184 (D A Altree 4-52, M D Edmond 4-50), Warwickshire 350 and 143-5 (D P Ostler 74 not out, S Kirby 4-41) Warwickshire win by five wickets.

Barnett feasts on friendly bowling

By Pat Gibson

LEICESTER (third day of four): Leicestershire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 349 runs ahead of Derbyshire

IF Kim Barnett was looking to make a point, he could not have done it more forcibly. The captain has walked out, the chairman has resigned, but Barnett, whose disgust at the way the whole affair has been handled is at the heart of the Derbyshire conflict, has not yet taken his bat home.

He proved that yesterday by scoring a century before lunch and going on to share an unbroken partnership of 316, a record for Derbyshire's third wicket, with Adrian Rollins before Phillip DeFreitas, the acting captain, threw down the gauntlet to Leicestershire by declaring 120 runs behind.

Leicestershire promptly took up the challenge, Vince Wells and Darren Maddy putting on 153 for the first wicket to set up a last-day run chase on a pitch so flat that only three batsmen managed to get themselves out on it yesterday.

It was the only way these sides, champions and runners-up respectively last season, were going to get a result in these conditions, such has been the ineptitude of their bowlers. They will protest that their task was wellnigh impossible but cricketers who are paid to bowl should at least be able to adhere to a decent line and length. The only batsman to miss out in the first two sessions was Adams, who made a complete hash of an attempted pull against Ormond, whereupon Barnett went in to demonstrate that true professionals do not look gift-horses in the mouth.

He is 37 now and in his nineteenth season of county cricket but a liberal supply of long hops and half-volleys took years off him as he fairly galloped to 50 off 34 balls with ten almost disdainful fours. He deliberately uppercut Ormond for six to third man and was well on his way to one of the fastest hundreds of the summer when a back spasm slowed him down.

Even with a runner, he still completed his hundred off 114 balls. It was his third century before lunch and also the third time that a Derbyshire batsman had achieved the feat this season. Rollins did it against Glamorgan, at Chesterfield, and Adams against Durham, at Chester-le-Street.

Rollins was content to play second fiddle until lunch but he came into his own afterwards, accelerating to his third century of the season off 159 balls with two sixes and 12 fours.

By then, the Leicestershire bowlers were simply going through the motions. Wells had shown them how it should be done by sending down 12 overs for 18 and Pierson bowled his off breaks tidily, but the rest were cannon-fodder as Rollins moved on to 171 and Barnett 147 before the declaration came at 366 for two.

Not that the Derbyshire bowling was any better. Wells added 93 off 84 balls to his first-innings 190, with three sixes and 12 fours, and Maddy helped himself to 66 as Leicestershire cruised to 229 for two.

FOOTBALL SATURDAY

BLACKBURN ROVERS v LIVERPOOL
Today, 3.0

Oliver Holt

The season is only two games old for both these clubs, of course, but Paul Ince, the new Liverpool captain, may go into this afternoon's reunion with his former boss at Internazionale, the Blackburn manager, Roy Hodgson, with a tinge of regret after the clubs' respective starts to the season.

Liverpool, of whom so much is expected this season, have gathered just one point from their opening two games and lost at home to Leicester City ten days ago, while Blackburn supporters are daring to hope that the glory days may not have vanished with Kenny Dalglish after their victories over Sheffield Wednesday and Aston Villa left them top of the first Premiership table of the season.

Liverpool's problems have hardly been helped by Barcelona's cruel flirtation with Steve McManaman, who will make his first appearance in front of his team's supporters since news of what was supposed to be his impending transfer broke last week. Quite what sort of reception they give him is open to question, although a good performance from the man who has come to be regarded as their best player will do much to dissipate any lingering resentment.

Roy Evans hoped to give both Oyvind Leonhardsen and Robbie Fowler their first starts of the season today but the Norwegian suffered a hamstring problem in training on Thursday and will not play and Fowler is doubtful after tweaking his damaged knee. Liverpool may switch to 4-4-2 and play Dominic Matteo at left back.

Blackburn, newly shorn of Graeme Le Saux and Henning Berg, have no such problems. Confidence is running high at Ewood Park and Hodgson, who spoke this week of how he helped Ince to deal with the negative sides of playing in Italy and opined that the player would still be at Inter if Hodgson himself had stayed, is likely to stick with the side that has brought him maximum points so far.

Chris Sutton, a man branded "the striker the Premiership forgot" by one newspaper last week, will be keen to keep his new-found momentum going after his hat-trick against Villa and Martin Dahlin, the Swede bought from AS Roma for £2.5 million, may have to be content with a place on the bench for the third match in succession.

"There is a great feeling at the club again," Sutton said yesterday. "We went through some tough times last season but now, even though we have only played two games, everybody is keen to keep the momentum going."

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): J Filan — P Valery, S Henchoz, C Hendry, J Kenna — S Ripley, W McKinlay, G Flitcroft, J Wilcox — C Sutton, K Gallacher

LIVERPOOL (4-4-2): D James — R Jones, M Wright, P Babb, D Matteo — S McManaman, P Ince, M Thomas, S I Bjornebye — M Owen, K Riedle

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, BBC1 10.50pm, extended highlights.

■ PREDICTION: Score draw.

MARC ASPLAND

"It's a situation made for Wrighty" . . . not perhaps Peter Schmeichel's thoughts after the notorious confrontation at Highbury

FIRST 11 ELEVEN

WRIGHTS AND WRONGS

11 favourite Ian Wright moments, chosen by Tony Willis, Editor of One Nil Down, Two One Up, the Arsenal fanzine

1. Southampton v Arsenal, September 1991
Wrighty marks his league debut with a hat-trick. "What a waste of money," chorus the Gooners.

2. Arsenal v Everton, December 1991
Four assists from Limpar, four goals for Wright. Everton sunk.

3. Arsenal v Southampton, May 1992
Final day of the season, and of the North Bank. Wrighty beats Lineker to the Golden Boot with a second-half hat-trick. Gary Who?

4. Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday, May 1993
1-0 to the Arsenal — Smith and Wright combine to give Arsenal the lead in the FA Cup Final replay.

5. Tottenham Hotspur v Arsenal, August 1993
It is 0-0 in the 87th minute at White Hart Lane when Wright scores a classic winner.

6. Poland v England, May 1993
Wright tries to save Turnip Taylor and England's World Cup qualifying hopes with a brilliant equaliser, to no avail.

7. Arsenal v Paris Saint-Germain, April 1994
A two-footed tackle on a PSG defender sees him led away in tears, knowing he will miss the Cup Winners' Cup final.

8. Arsenal v Parma, May 1994
Putting his disappointment at missing the final behind him, Wrighty gees up the fans by parading around the Parken Stadium in his Arsenal bobble hat.

9. Arsenal v Crystal Palace, October 1994
Soaring above Nigel Martyn and his old club, Wrighty heads a classic goal, his 100th for the club.

10. Arsenal v Manchester United, February 1997
Fulfilling the wishes of everyone in the country who detests Man Utd, Wrighty clatters the bumptious Schmeichel.

11. Match of the Day studio, January 1997
Invited into the inner sanctum, he observes reverentially: "This is my Graceland, Des." Admit it, if he played for your team you'd love him.

Edited by Richard Whitehead

COVENTRY CITY v BOLTON WANDERERS
Today, 3.0

Richard Hobson

Coventry fans are treating victory and defeat alike. They moan about both. Far from throwing their caps in the air after the opening-day success against Chelsea, they fired off letters to the local newspaper explaining how the result had been deceptive and predicting the customary struggle for survival.

The side was certainly outclassed in the subsequent defeat by Arsenal, but it is contests against lesser clubs, the "six-pointers", that are more likely to dictate their eventual fate.

Thus, the probable loss of McAllister to injury today is significant. The Scotland international could miss a game for the first time since his arrival from Leeds United 13 months ago.

The acquisition of Beardsley gives Bolton a gravity hitherto lacking. The argument runs that a man who has never experienced a relegation struggle will not risk his reputation by moving to a troubled environment.

Colin Todd, the manager, may play him as an out-an-out striker at the expense of either McGinlay or Blake. Thompson and Pollock are over niggles and the biggest doubt concerns Branagan, the goalkeeper, who pulled out of the Ireland squad in midweek because of an elbow problem.

COVENTRY CITY (probable, 3-5-2): S Ogrizovic — P Williams, R Shaw, D Burrows — G Breen, T E Solvedt, K Richardson, P Telfer, J Salako — D Dublin, D Huckerby

BOLTON WANDERERS (probable, 4-4-2): K Branagan — N Cox, G Bergsson, G Taggart, R Elliott — J Pollock, P Frandsen, A Thompson, S Sellars — P Beardsley, N Blake

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, goal highlights.

■ PREDICTION: Low-scoring draw.

EVERTON v WEST HAM UNITED
Today, 3.0

David Maddock

The cynic might ask already about this game, what is the point? It hardly grips the imagination and neither side is likely to win anything this season.

Harry Redknapp at least uncovered two truffles among the muck in his crazed transfer activity last season in Hartson and Kitson, and Ferdinand is the genuine article. But the extent of West Ham's ambition is mid-table comfort, as injury today to Hartson may prove.

On the evidence of their opener against Crystal Palace, Everton will do well to achieve even that.

They desperately need goals and £500,000 will not buy them, as the laughable bid for Dean Saunders proved.

At least they got the best of the *mediocrity merry-go-round that* sees three players line up against their old club today. West Ham's newcomer, Unsworth, was so poor last season that he apologised to the Goodison fans and Williamson joins Oster and Farrelly in the uninspiring bracket, but Bilic is different class, as a person and a player.

He is intelligent and possesses a sense of humour, as his Nazi salute to German supporters during the European championship er . . . illustrates?

EVERTON (possible, 4-4-2): N Southall — E Barrett, D Watson, S Bilic, T Phelan — D Williamson, C Thomsen, G Speed, G Farrelly — D Ferguson, N Barmby

WEST HAM UNITED (possible, 4-3-1-2): L Miklosko — S Potts, D Unsworth, R Ferdinand, D Terrier — J Moncur, S Lomas, S Lazaridis — E Berkovic — P Kitson, I Dowie

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day* goal highlights.

■ PREDICTION: A draw and a dour one at that

LEEDS UNITED v CRYSTAL PALACE
Today, 3.0

Mark Hodkinson

The mood at *Elland Road* has lifted dramatically after two dashing — by Leeds United standards, anyway — opening performances. Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink is the new hero and renditions of The Undertones' *Jimmy, Jimmy have rung out* regularly. George Graham, their *manager*, has offloaded veterans Dorigo and Rush, with Yeboah and Brolin sure to follow.

David Hopkin, the former Palace midfield player, was appointed club captain yesterday. Since, as with former captains, Bremner and Strachan, he is red of hair and Scottish, there are hopes that a ginger will add spice to an emergent Leeds team for a third time. "David has a lot of everything," Graham gushes.

Lucas Radebe, back from captaining South Africa to a place in the World Cup finals, is expected to replace Molenaar in defence.

Steve Coppell, the Crystal Palace manager, has just spent £3 million on the defender, Neil Emblen, and the Israel midfield player, Itzhik Zohar. Palace have also been linked with Swansea City's young defender, Christian Edwards. Dean Gordon faces a fitness test just before kick-off after picking up an injury in training. If he fails, Emblen is expected to be his replacement.

LEEDS UNITED (probable, 4-4-2): N Martyn — G Halle, L Radebe, D Wetherall, D Robertson — G Kelly, L Bowyer, D Hopkin, B Ribeiro — R Wallace, J F Hasselbaink

CRYSTAL PALACE (probable, 3-5-2): K Miller — D Tuttle, M Edworthy, A Linighan — K Muscat, A Roberts, S Rodger, A Lombardo, N Emblen — P Warhurst, B Dyer

■ TELEVISION: *Today*: *Match of the Day* extended highlights

■ PREDICTION: Comfortable win for Leeds.

NEWCASTLE UNITED v ASTON VILLA
Today, 3.0

Nick Szczepanik

Less is more, it seems. Newcastle United, supposedly short of goalscoring power after losing Shearer and Ferdinand, have won both their games so far, against Sheffield Wednesday, in the FA Carling Premiership, and Croatia Zagreb, in the European Cup, whereas Aston Villa's embarrassment of forward riches has yet to gain them a goal or a *point from two league matches*.

Playing Collymore, Yorke and *Milosevic together has not been a* success for Villa: Milosevic was withdrawn in a half-time reshuffle against Blackburn Rovers ten days ago and is unlikely to figure in the starting line-up today. *Brian Little, the manager, has* spoken of "getting back to basics", which could mean omitting new signing Grayson as Staunton returns to the defence, with Mark Bosnich back in goal.

The main Newcastle doubt concerns Asprilla, who has been revelling in the main striker's role; he played — and scored — for Colombia against Bolivia on Wednesday and has, in the past, been rested after such a gruelling round trip, but will probably keep his understudy — a young lad called Rush — on the bench today, alongside Barton, available after injury, and, if fit, Barnes.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (probable, 3-5-2): S Given — A Pistone, P Albert, S Pearce — S Watson, T Ketsbaia, D Batty, R Lee, J Beresford — J D Tomasson, F Asprilla

ASTON VILLA (possible, 5-3-2): M Bosnich — F Nelson, U Ehiogu, G Southgate, S Staunton, A Wright — M Draper, I Taylor, A Townsend — D Yorke, S Collymore

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, extended highlights.

■ PREDICTION: Close, but Newcastle to keep winning

LEICESTER CITY v MANCHESTER UNITED
Today, 3.0

Russell Kempson

Coca-Cola Cup-winners, Uefa Cup contestants, co-leaders of the FA Carling Premiership . . . *when will it all end for* Martin O'Neill and his plucky bunch of Filbert Street scrappers? O'Neill is still pinching himself and almost daily adds another superlative to his vast repertoire, yet there are few signs of the Leicester City success story having run its course.

Today does not come much bigger, *with the sell-out visit of* Alex Ferguson and his Man*chester United masters, and* O'Neill will be looking for a repeat of the minor heroics that has seen his side win their opening two matches. "What a fantastic start," he said. "We beat Aston Villa, really causing an upset and deservedly so, and then went to Anfield *and beat Liverpool. That was* simply sensational."

Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, was complimentary about the victors. "That was nice to know, really nice," O'Neill said. "We've gone there, beaten the potential champions and now take on *United. I'm really looking* forward to it. I really am." Apparently, he really is.

With a maximum six points, too. Ferguson will resist major team surgery. Henning Berg could make his first United start in place of Ronny Johnsen, who has thigh and *hamstring problems, while* Jordi Cruyff's place up front is in jeopardy as Andy Cole and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer near fitness again.

United's gossip factory has been running amok this week, with João Pinto, of Benfica, and Georgi Kinkladze, of *Manchester City, linked to* Old Trafford. Realistically, *neither will join, and, sensi*bly, neither will United pay *Eric Cantona the £750,000 he* claims he is owed. On yer *bicyclette*, Eric.

LEICESTER CITY (probable, 5-3-2): K Keller — M Izzet, S Prior, M Elliott, S Walsh, S Guppy — N Lennon, P Kaamark, S Campbell — I Marshall, E Heskey

MANCHESTER UNITED (probable, 4-4-2): P Schmeichel — D Irwin, H Berg, G Pallister, P Neville — P Scholes, N Butt, R Keane, R Giggs — E Sheringham, J Cruyff.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, goal highlights

■ PREDICTION: Unbelievable, amazing, sensational, magnificent win for O'Neill.

ON MONDAY

Brilliant insights or hopeless guesses? Check our writers' predictions against their weekend match reports

SOUTHAMPTON v ARSENAL
Today, 3.0

Keith Pike

Ian Wright's idea of heaven, he said as he began to focus on a place in Arsenal folklore, was to set the club's goalscoring record, *jump on his Harley Davidson* and ride off into the Highbury *sunset. Southampton supporters* can probably hear the throttle being opened already.

There is no more likely a venue than The Dell for Wright to make history. Since scoring a hat-trick on his debut there in September 1991, he has plundered 11 goals in eight games against Southampton, including three hat-tricks, and there is no doubt that he is in *the mood to extend that run.*

Talk of the record, Wright says, has been "getting on my nerves a bit. The only way to stop it is to get it over with". But even then the Premiership will not be able to relax. "It seems I could get to 200 goals this season," Wright added.

Adams and Dixon are still confined to the reserves, but David Jones's Southampton, pointless and goalless after two games, have the greater problems, with Dryden and Le Tissier injured, Van Gobbel sold and *Magilton, the captain, seemingly* on the verge of a move to Celtic. *The combative Benali has been* detailed to mark Wright — watch out for fireworks.

SOUTHAMPTON (possible, 4-4-2): P Jones — M Oakley, K Monkou, F Benali, L Todd — M Robinson, N Maddison, J Magilton, R Slater — E Ostenstad, S Johansen.

ARSENAL (possible, 4-4-2): D Seaman — R Garde, G Grimandi, S Bould, N Winterburn — R Parlour, P Vieira, E Petit, M Overmars — I Wright, D Bergkamp.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, goal highlights.

■ PREDICTION: Points shared, *record equalled.*

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR v DERBY COUNTY
Today, 3.0

Brian Glanville

It never rains but it pours. Not only have Tottenham made an abysmal start to the new season but they have lost Campbell, the bulwark *of their defence, with an ankle* injury that could put him out of action for weeks.

Yet, to keep their impatient fans off their backs, they need urgently to win today. Though they were lucky not to slip three goals behind at West Ham, there was some encouragement from their rally at the end, when they pumped the ball forward, got a *goal back and at least showed* spirit.

Spurs have Scales to fill in at centre back, can use indestructible Mabbutt if they choose, but must hope that Vega, who has given away two embarrassing goals, becomes less accident *prone.*

Derby might just have Sturridge, their dynamic little striker, back again after injury; he survived a reserve match in midweek.

Wanchope, the loose-limbed Costa Rica international forward, is still recovering from an operation, and Baiano, who reluctantly left Fiorentina, has a thigh injury. Derby's other Italian player, *Eranio, the experienced right*-wing international from AC Milan, will be available to exert his influence.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (probable, 4-4-2): I Walker — S Carr, R Vega, J Scales, J Edinburgh — A Nielsen, D Howells, A Sinton, D Ginola — S Iversen, L Ferdinand.

DERBY COUNTY (probable, 3-5-2): M Poom — I Stimac, J Laursen, C Daily — S Eranio, L Carsley, C Powell, J Hunt, R van der Laan — A Ward, D Burton.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, goal highlights.

■ PREDICTION: 1-1.

WIMBLEDON v SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY
Today, 3.0

Peter Robinson

Whisper it, but *the start of the* football season was not universally welcomed. There were those who looked at the date, August 9, and bemoaned the invasion of the winter game into the heart of summer. There was *an Ashes Test series* to be resolved, for Pete's sake, in the middle of a heatwave. Followers of Wimbledon and Sheffield Wednesday will agree with all that.

They have both started the season "slowly" and the non-international hiatus just passed has given them a chance to regroup and put that curious August prologue behind them.

Now that the season proper is finally getting under way, things can only get better for them and the return today of Pembridge and Newsome after injuries will help — Newsome, who dislocated his left ankle during the FA Cup *quarter-final defeat by, of all* people, Wimbledon, in March — although Hirst will be *absent*, suspended. Wimbledon are likely to be unchanged for a match that traditionally is overlooked but produces lots of goals.

one in which Wimbledon at least picked up a point against Liverpool before the lights went out on their efforts at Derby County. Wednesday have played two and lost two.

WIMBLEDON (probable, 4-4-2): N Sullivan — K Cunningham, C Perry, D Blackwell, A Kimble — N Ardley, V Jones, R Earle, C Hughes — E Ekoku, M Gayle.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (probable, 4-3-3): K Pressman — P Blondeau, D Walker, J Newsome, I Nolan — M Pembridge, P Hyde, P Atherton — P Di Canio, B Carbone, A Booth.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, goal highlights.

■ PREDICTION: Another pointless visit for Wednesday.

BARNSLEY v CHELSEA
Tomorrow, 4.0

Oliver Holt

It will be hyped as the clash between Yorkshire grit and the foreign fancy dans of the FA Carling Premiership but when Barnsley take the pitch to seek their first win at Oakwell in the top flight tomorrow afternoon, they may find that Chelsea have appropriated some of their fighting qualities.

Chelsea's defeat at Coventry *City a fortnight ago, courtesy of a* trio of defensive errors, was the biggest shock of the opening day of the new season and left Ruud Gullit's team embarrassed and angered by their own failings. The frustration they have harboured since, the desire to put *it right and state their own* championship credentials, may *find expression in their football* tomorrow.

Barnsley, of course, will be buoyed by their win at Crystal Palace ten days ago and by the competent start that they have *made*. Neil *Redfearn, their cap*tain, will be aiming for his third *goal in successive games.*

But Chelsea, with Graeme Le Saux more at home in his new surroundings and a defence chastened enough to provide the support that Zola, Hughes, Di Matteo and company need, should be too strong for Danny Wilson's team.

BARNSLEY (4-4-2): D Watson — A Moses, A de Zeeuw, M Appleby, N Eaden — E Tinkler, N Redfearn, A Bullock, D Barnard — P Wilkinson, J Hendrie.

CHELSEA (3-5-2): E de Goey — F Sinclair, F Leboeuf, S Clarke — D Petrescu, G Poyet, R Di Matteo, D Wise, G Le Saux — M Hughes, G Zola.

■ TELEVISION: Tomorrow: Live on Sky Sports 1, 4.0.

■ PREDICTION: Chelsea to win by two goals.

FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Return to action will help banish memory of the pain in Spain

It is somehow appropriate that this column is known as McManaman's World because my little world was briefly turned upside down by the events of the past week. After the near hysteria of the interest in me, I am hoping that things will return closer to normality today, when I finally get back to playing football. I understand that an England player being approached by Barcelona will generate interest, but surely no one could have predicted the pandemonium that ensued when it became apparent that the deal had broken down.

So much was said and written about me that you would have thought I had been on a date with a princess. Amusingly, I went from being a hugely talented international, to a greedy so-and-so, to a useless player who had been found out completely and whose career was virtually over by the end of the weekend.

I read so many times that I had played badly last year and had been found out by man-to-man marking and had not fulfilled my potential, that I began to suspect that the reporters had got together to scrape an excuse for an idea from the bottom of the barrel.

It's funny how the same guys who can say one week that I'm rubbish and how I have never proved myself on the international stage can next week talk glowingly about me and about my contribution during the European championship. Selective memory, perhaps.

Of course, all the rubbish generated over the past week is the sort of thing that every player has come to expect these days and you tend to dismiss most of it without too much trouble. There genuinely is an attitude among professional footballers that tends to disregard most of what is presented about them in the media, because they find it so detached from reality. But there was one thing which did register with me and, in fact, did surprise me a great deal. It was the persistent suggestion that the deal fell down because I am greedy.

I regard that as an incredibly naive position to take — or an extremely malicious one. The same people that said I was greedy completely, and conveniently, ignored the fact that Barcelona were deep in negotiation with, and ultimately signed, another player on the day that they invited me out for talks. Barcelona had three players on the go and used my presence in Spain to put pressure on the other man to sign. Fact.

But after one ridiculous quote from their vice-president, which was clearly just designed to explain away to his club's supporters why they had not signed me, I am the villain of the piece. It happened because the people peddling such nonsense are not interested in the truth.

They are quite content to spread what is hurtful rubbish just because it sounds sensational. I have laughed it off, but my family all live in Liverpool and if the supporters are fed lies about me, it might rebound on them. Then again, our supporters know all about the lies that certain newspapers peddle and — surprise, surprise — it's the same newspapers again, making up rubbish.

When something as hurtful as that is written about you, then you do find it difficult to ignore, but now that I can return to playing football I will quickly forget it. I'm at Liverpool to play football and I sometimes wish that everyone would remember that.

The game this weekend will be an important one for all the usual reasons, but mostly because it allows me to get on with my career. I'm a footballer, a professional, and I can offer a guarantee to all the supporters at my club that my mind for the match against Blackburn Rovers will be concentrated solely on my game and none of the other rubbish that has come up in the past week or so.

■ Hodgson's choice

TRAVELLING to Blackburn Rovers today, I will get my first sighting of Roy Hodgson in his new role as a manager in England. I have to say, I have great admiration for Roy and all that he has already achieved, and it seems that he will continue his successful career with Blackburn.

I travelled to Milan to stay with Paul Ince during the summer for a short holiday. Paul lived very close to Roy and I met him one day while we were out shopping. He struck me as being a man of great character and impressed me immensely. He has had a fabulous career, but very few people in England knew very much about him because he coached abroad.

But I think that is why he may be a success at Blackburn, because he has a vast wealth of experience on the Continent. These days, in the Premiership, there are as many foreign players in just about all the squads as there are English players and I think knowledge of football in Europe, and beyond, will become a prerequisite for success more and more in the domestic game.

Hodgson showed with Internazionale that he knows about the game at the very top level and, in his one season there, he was very successful, getting to two finals and third place in the league.

Roy decided that he could do without the political manoeuvrings at the club and came back to England, but Incey tells me that, in Italy, it was thought that he was destined to be one of the great coaches there and I think that Blackburn must be rejoicing that they have got a manager of such high quality.

■ Laughing stock

IT HAS been just another ordinary week at the training ground, with the lads getting together to give some stick to one unfortunate player. Sadly, that player happened to be me after the move to Barcelona fell through. As soon as I entered the doors on Monday, the cry of "Greedy bastard" went up in the dressing-room, and I've been getting the same treatment ever since.

Whenever I say anything to our goalkeeping coach, Joe Corrigan, he replies: "Si, Señor," and there has been plenty of flamenco dancing around the place. It will be somebody else's turn next week, but I suppose it was fun while it lasted, and at least it gave everyone something to laugh about.

STEVE MCMANAMAN

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	PLAYED	POINTS	GOAL DIFF	HOME W	HOME D	HOME L	HOME F	HOME A	AWAY W	AWAY D	AWAY L	AWAY F	AWAY A	LAST 10 MATCHES W-D-L	CURRENT STREAK
1. BLACKBURN ROVERS	2	6	+5	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	2-0-0	W2
2. MANCHESTER UTD	2	6	+3	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	2-0-0	W2
3. WEST HAM UTD	2	6	+2	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	2	1	2-0-0	W2
4. LEICESTER CITY	2	6	+2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	2-0-0	W2
5. LEEDS UTD	2	4	+2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	1	1-1-0	W1
6. ARSENAL	2	4	+2	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	1-1-0	W1
7. NEWCASTLE UTD	1	3	+1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1-0-0	W1
8. BOLTON WANDERERS	1	3	+1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1-0-0	W1
9. BARNSLEY	2	3	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	1-0-1	W1
=. CRYSTAL PALACE	2	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	1-0-1	L1
11. COVENTRY CITY	2	3	-1	1	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	2	1-0-1	L1
12. WIMBLEDON	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0-1-0	D1
13. LIVERPOOL	2	1	-1	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	0-1-1	L1
13. CHELSEA	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0-0-1	L1
15. EVERTON	1	0	-1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-1	L1
16. DERBY COUNTY	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0-0-1	L1
17. SOUTHAMPTON	2	0	-2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0-0-2	L2
18. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	2	0	-3	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	1	1	2	0-0-2	L2
19. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	2	0	-3	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	2	0-0-2	L2
20. ASTON VILLA	2	0	-5	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	1	0	1	0-0-2	L2

ATTACK

Goals scored		Avge
1. Blackburn	5	2.50
2. Leeds Utd	4	2.00
=. West Ham	4	2.00
4. Chelsea	2	2.00
=. Newcastle	2	2.00
6. Arsenal	3	1.50
=. Coventry	3	1.50
=. Leicester	3	1.50
=. Manchester Utd	3	1.50
10. Barnsley	2	1.00
=. Crystal Palace	2	1.00
=. Liverpool	2	1.00
=. Sheffield Wed	2	1.00
14. Bolton	1	1.00
=. Everton	1	1.00
=. Wimbledon	1	1.00
17. Tottenham	1	0.50
18. Aston Villa	0	0.00
=. Derby	0	0.00
=. Southampton	0	0.00

DEFENCE

Goals conceded		Avge
1. Blackburn	0	0.00
=. Bolton	0	0.00
=. Manchester Utd	0	0.00
4. Arsenal	1	0.50
=. Barnsley	1	0.50
=. Leicester	1	0.50
7. Crystal Palace	2	1.00
=. Leeds Utd	2	1.00
=. Southampton	2	1.00
=. West Ham	2	1.00
11. Derby	1	1.00
=. Newcastle	1	1.00
=. Wimbledon	1	1.00
14. Liverpool	3	1.50
15. Coventry	4	2.00
=. Tottenham	4	2.00
=. Everton	2	2.00
18. Aston Villa	5	2.50
=. Sheffield Wed	5	2.50
20. Chelsea	3	3.00

SCORERS

Premiership
3: Wright (Arsenal); Sutton (Blackburn); Dublin (Coventry).
2: Redfearn (Barnsley); Asprilla (Newcastle); Hartson (West Ham); Wallace (Leeds); Gallacher (Blackburn).

First division
2: Kelly (Tranmere); Campbell, Thomas (Nottm For); Keane (Wolves); Jemson (Oxford); Aloisi, Svensson (Portsmouth); S Jones (Charlton); Hughes, Hunt (West Brom).

Second division
3: O'Connell (Wigan).
2: Hayles (Bristol Rovers); Scott (Wycombe).

Third division
2: Abrahams, Buckle (Colchester); Flack (Exeter); Allon (Hartlepool); Landon (Macclesfield); Redmile (Notts Co); Carruthers (Peterborough); Painter (Rochdale); Forrester (Scunthorpe).

SCORING TRENDS

Goals per half	1st	2nd
Arsenal	2	1
Aston Villa	0	0
Barnsley	1	1
Blackburn	4	1
Bolton	1	0
Chelsea	1	1
Coventry	1	2
Crystal Palace	1	1
Derby	0	0
Everton	0	1
Leeds Utd	3	1
Leicester	2	1
Liverpool	0	2
Manchester Utd	0	3
Newcastle	1	1
Sheffield Wed	1	1
Southampton	0	0
Tottenham	0	1
West Ham	1	3
Wimbledon	0	1

CAUTIONS

Cards issued	Yellow	Red
1. Sheffield Wed	7	0
2. C Palace	6	0
3. Arsenal	5	0
=. Manchester Utd	5	0
=. Wimbledon	5	0
6. Blackburn	4	0
=. Coventry	4	0
=. Leeds Utd	4	0
=. Tottenham	4	0
10. Chelsea	3	0
=. West Ham	3	0
12. Bolton	2	0
=. Everton	2	0
=. Leicester	2	0
=. Liverpool	2	0
=. Southampton	2	0
17. Aston Villa	1	0
=. Barnsley	1	0
=. Newcastle	1	0
20. Derby	0	0

REFEREES

	P	Cards issued Yellow	Cards issued Red
1. S Dunn	1	7	0
2. P Durkin	2	13	0
3. D Gallagher	1	5	0
=. P Jones	1	5	0
5. P Alcock	1	4	0
=. G Barber	1	4	0
=. K Burge	1	4	0
=. G Poll	1	4	0
=. G Willard	1	4	0
10. M Bodenham	1	3	0
=. U Rennie	1	3	0
12. S Lodge	2	4	0
13. N Barry	1	2	0
=. A Wilkie	1	2	0
=. J Winter	1	2	0
16. D Elleray	1	0	0
17. G Ashby	0	0	0
=. M Reed	0	0	0
=. M Riley	0	0	0
Total	18	66	0

MATCH TICKETS

	Admission
Arsenal	£13.50-£31
Aston Villa	£14-£18
Barnsley	None (season tickets)
Blackburn	£16-£23
Bolton	£13-£18
Chelsea	£16-£50
Coventry	£16-£22
Crystal Palace	£14-£30
Derby	£18-£23
Everton	£14-£19
Leeds	£16-£25
Leicester	£13.50-£22
Liverpool	None (were £16-£18)
Manchester Utd	*£13-£19
Newcastle	None (season tickets)
Sheffield Wed	£9-£21
Southampton	*£16-£20
Tottenham	**£21-£35
West Ham	£18-£31
Wimbledon	£12-£24

* members only
** members' discount available

SEASON TICKETS

	Price
Arsenal	£350-£702
Aston Villa	£238-£306
Barnsley	*£200-£250
Blackburn	£273-£416
Bolton	£198-£306
Chelsea	*£305-£887
Coventry	£304-£418
Crystal Palace	£225-£500
Derby	£220-£430
Everton	£190-£275
Leeds	£255-£365
Leicester	£295-£480
Liverpool	*£285-£330
Manchester Utd	*£247-£361
Newcastle	*n/a
Sheffield Wed	£225-£314
Southampton	£288-£360
Tottenham	£350-£640
West Ham	£305-£480
Wimbledon	£160-£280

* sold out

MANAGERS

Premiership	Appointed
Arsenal — Arsène Wenger	Oct 96
Aston Villa — Brian Little	Nov 94
Barnsley — Danny Wilson	Jun 94
Blackburn — Roy Hodgson	Jul 97
Bolton — Colin Todd	Jan 96
Chelsea — Ruud Gullit	May 96
Coventry — Gordon Strachan	Nov 96
C Palace — Steve Coppell	Feb 97
Derby — Jim Smith	Jun 95
Everton — Howard Kendall	Jun 97
Leeds — George Graham	Sep 96
Leicester — Martin O'Neill	Dec 95
Liverpool — Roy Evans	Jan 94
Man Utd — Alex Ferguson	Nov 86
Newcastle — Kenny Dalglish	Jan 97
Sheffield Wed — David Pleat	Jun 95
Southampton — David Jones	Jun 97
Tottenham — Gerry Francis	Nov 94
West Ham — Harry Redknapp	Aug 94
Wimbledon — Joe Kinnear	Mar 92

INTERNET

Official site	Web address
Arsenal	www.arsenal.co.uk
Aston Villa	—
Barnsley	—
Blackburn	www.rovers.co.uk
Bolton	www.boltonwfc.co.uk
Chelsea	www.chelseafc.co.uk
Coventry	www.ccfc.co.uk
C Palace	www.cpfc.co.uk
Derby	—
Everton	evertonfc.merseyworld.com
Leeds	www.lufc.co.uk
Leicester	www.lcfc.co.uk
Liverpool	—
Man Utd	www.sky.co.uk/sports/manu
Newcastle	www.newcastle-utd.co.uk/nufc
Sheff Wed	—
Southampton	www.soton.ac.uk/~saints
Tottenham	www.spurs.co.uk
West Ham	www.westhamunited.co.uk
Wimbledon	—
FA Premiership	www.fa-carling.com

WEEKEND MATCHES

TODAY

Kick-off 3.0 · ** denotes all-ticket*
Fools coupon numbers in brackets
In Premiership fixtures, † denotes sold out, otherwise seats still available

FA Carling Premiership

(1) † Blackburn v Liverpool
(2) Coventry v Bolton
(3) Everton v West Ham
(4) Leeds v Crystal Palace
(5) †* Leicester v Manchester Utd
(6) † Newcastle v Aston Villa
(7) †* Southampton v Arsenal
(8) * Tottenham v Derby
(9) Wimbledon v Sheffield Wed

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Man Utd	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
West Ham	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
Leicester	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Leeds	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Arsenal	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Newcastle	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Bolton	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Barnsley	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
C Palace	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Coventry	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Wimbledon	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Liverpool	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Chelsea	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Everton	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Derby	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Southampton	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Sheff Wed	2	0	0	2	2	5	0
Tottenham	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Aston Villa	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

Nationwide League
First division

(10) Birmingham v Reading
(11) Bradford v Ipswich
(12) Bury v Charlton
(13) Middlesbrough v Stoke
(14) Norwich v Crewe
(15) Oxford Utd v Nottingham Forest
(16) Port Vale v Sunderland
(17) QPR v Stockport
(18) Sheffield Utd v Portsmouth
(19) Swindon v Huddersfield

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nottm For	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
West Brom	2	2	0	0	5	3	6
Swindon	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
Portsmouth	2	1	1	0	5	3	4
Sheff Utd	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
Wolves	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
Bradford	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Oxford Utd	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Charlton	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Sunderland	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Tranmere	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Birmingham	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Middlesbro	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Bury	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Man City	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
QPR	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Reading	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Stockport	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Ipswich	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Stoke	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Crewe	2	0	0	2	2	5	0
Port Vale	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Norwich	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Huddersfield	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Second division

(20) Blackpool v Wycombe
(21) Bristol Rovers v Carlisle
(22) Chesterfield v Preston
(23) Fulham v Luton
(24) Gillingham v Walsall
(25) Grimsby v Wrexham
(26) Millwall v York
(27) Northampton v Bristol City
(28) Oldham v Bournemouth
(29) Southend v Burnley
(30) Watford v Brentford
(31) Wigan v Plymouth

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bournemouth	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
Watford	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
Bristol City	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Chesterfield	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Bristol Rov	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Fulham	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Preston	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Wigan	2	1	0	1	5	3	3
Millwall	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
Oldham	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Wrexham	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Luton	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Blackpool	2	1	0	1	1	2	3
Grimsby	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
Plymouth	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
Gillingham	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Walsall	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
Wycombe	2	0	1	1	2	5	1
Southend	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Carlisle	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Burnley	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Northampton	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Brentford	2	0	1	1	0	3	1
York	2	0	0	2	1	4	0

Third division

(32) Chester v Cambridge Utd
(33) Exeter v Darlington
(34) Leyton Orient v Rochdale
(35) Macclesfield v Doncaster
(36) Mansfield v Cardiff
(37) Notts County v Lincoln
(38) Peterborough v Hull
(39) Rotherham v Hartlepool
(—) Shrewsbury v Torquay
(—) Swansea v Scunthorpe

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Notts Co	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Scunthorpe	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
Hartlepool	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Exeter	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Macclesfield	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Peterborough	2	1	0	1	5	1	3
Barnet	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Colchester	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Rochdale	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Chester	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Camb Utd	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Mansfield	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Shrewsbury	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Torquay	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Cardiff	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Swansea	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Scarborough	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Lincoln	2	1	0	1	1	2	3
Brighton	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Rotherham	2	0	0	2	3	5	0
Darlington	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Doncaster	2	0	0	2	1	7	0
L Orient	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Hull	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

Vauxhall Conference

(—) Cheltenham v Woking
(—) Farnborough v Hereford
(—) Hayes v Morecambe
(—) Hednesford v Stalybridge
(—) Kidderminster v Gateshead
(—) Leek v Rushden and Diamonds
(—) Northwich v Kettering
(—) Slough v Halifax
(—) Stevenage v Southport
(—) Telford v Dover
(—) Welling v Yeovil

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division

(40) Aberdeen v Motherwell
(41) Dunfermline v Hearts
(42) Hibernian v Kilmarnock
(43) Rangers v Dundee Utd
(44) St Johnstone v Celtic

First division

(45) Airdrie v Falkirk
(46) Ayr v Partick
(47) Dundee v St Mirren
(48) Hamilton v Raith
(49) Stirling v Greenock Morton

Second division

(—) Clydebank v Clyde
(—) Forfar v Brechin
(—) Inverness CT v East Fife
(—) Stenhousemuir v Livingston
(—) Stranraer v Queen of South

Third division

(—) Berwick v Dumbarton
(—) Cowdenbeath v Ross County
(—) East Stirling v Alloa
(—) Montrose v Arbroath
(—) Queen's Park v Albion

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Worcester City, Atherstone v King's Lynn, Bromsgrove v St Leonards, Burton Albion v Bath, Cambridge City v Salisbury, Crawley v Gloucester, Dorchester v Halesowen, Gresley v Sittingbourne, Hastings v Nuneaton, Merthyr v Tamworth, Rothwell v Forest Green. **Midland division:** Baston v VS Rugby, Blakenhall v RC Warwick, Corby v Evesham, Grantham v Moor Green, Raunds T v Stourbridge, Redditch v Bedworth, Solihull Boro v Shepshed D, Stafford v Paget R, Sutton Coldfield Town v Ilkeston, Wisbech Town v Brackley Town. **Southern division:** Baldock v Weston-super-Mare, Cinderford v Newport IoW, Clevedon v Bashley, Dartford v Weymouth, Fareham v Cirencester Town, Fleet T v Yate, Havant v Erith and Belvedere, Margate v Witney, Newport AFC v Tonbridge Angels, Trowbridge v Chelmsford, Waterlooville v Fisher London.

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Kingstonian, Bishop's Stortford v Boreham Wood, Bromley v Oxford City, Carshalton v Aylesbury, Enfield v Hendon, Gravesend and Northfleet v Yeading, Harrow v Walton and Hersham, Heybridge v Chesham, Hitchin v Dagenham and Redbridge, Purfleet v Dulwich, St Albans v Sutton United. **First division:** Abingdon Town v Aldershot Town, Berkhamstead Town v Wokingham, Bognor Regis v Billericay, Chertsey v Croydon, Grays v Leatherhead, Hampton v Barton Rovers, Leyton Pennant v Whyteleafe, Romford v Maidenhead, Thame Utd v Uxbridge, Wembley v Molesey, Worthing v Staines. **Second division:** Barking v Chalfont St Peter, Bedford T v Wivenhoe, Canvey Island v Leighton Town, Egham v Tilbury, Horsham v Braintree, Hungerford v Tooting and Mitcham, Met Police v Cheshunt, Northwood v Marlow, Wealdstone v Bracknell, Windsor and Eton v Banstead, Witham v Edgware. **Third division:** Corinthian-Casuals v Tring, Croydon v Hornchurch, East Thurrock v Wingate and Finchley, Epsom and Ewell v Camberley, Ford v Dorking, Harlow v Aveley, Hertford v H Hempstead, Kingsbury v Clapton, Lewes v Flackwell Heath, Southall v Ware.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Winsford, Alfreton v Frickley, Altrincham v Barrow, Bamber Bridge v Emley, Chorley v Blyth Spartans, Colwyn Bay v Hyde, Gainsborough v Spennymoor, Guiseley v Radcliffe, Lancaster v Runcorn, Leigh RMI v Boston, Marine v Bishop Auckland. **First division:** Ashton United v Farsley Celtic, Belper Town v Trafford, Burton v Bradford PA, Congleton v Worksop, Droylsden v Harrogate Town, Flixton v Matlock Town, Gretna v Eastwood Town, Lincoln United v Great Harwood, Netherfield v Stocksbridge PS, Whitby v Workington, Whitley Bay v Albion.

TOMORROW

FA Carling Premiership

† Barnsley v Chelsea (4.0)

Nationwide League
First division

* West Brom v Wolverhampton (1 0)

TELEVISION DETAILS

BBC1: Today: Football Focus in Grandstand 1 10pm; Final score 4 40pm, Match of the Day 10 50pm

Sky Sports 1: Today: Hold the Back Page 7am; Gillette Sports Saturday 12pm, Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook 5 30pm. **Tomorrow:** Goals on Sunday 11am, FA Carling Premiership: Barnsley v Chelsea (live) 3 0pm; Spanish football, Real Madrid v Atletico Madrid, 6 30pm. Highlights of Barnsley v Chelsea 10 30pm

Sky Sports 2: Today: Sky Sports Centre 7am, Soccer AM 8am. **Tomorrow:** Soccer Extra 8am; Nationwide League: West Bromwich Albion v Wolverhampton Wanderers (live) 12pm

Statistics compiled by Julian Desborough

FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Wanderer in wonder of his world

How Roberto Di Matteo made himself at home in the King's Road with the style only an Italian can fashion

DES JENSON

Di Matteo has made reaching the top of his profession his goal, in the FA Carling Premiership with Chelsea and for his country, Italy, after years of struggling against the prejudices of immigrant life

OLIVER HOLT

Gianfranco Zola is one of the first to take his leave. He raises his forearm in a wave of farewell to his team-mates and heads towards the double doors. At the rows of trestle tables in the canteen, the voices of the Chelsea footballers rise and fall in animated banter and bouts of exuberant laughter. Still there is no sign of Roberto Di Matteo.

Soon, Ruud Gullit, the manager, is saying his goodbyes, too, performing an impromptu little dance as he goes, his hands high in the air, his hips wiggling, the catcalls of the last players who are still eating their lunch in the aftermath of the Wednesday morning training session ringing in his ears. The autograph-hunters are long gone now and outside some apprentices are tearing around with a ball, showing off their fancy skills.

A few minutes later, Di Matteo strolls out of a changing-room into the sunlight. He had been one of the last off the pitch a couple of hours earlier, curling and dipping free kicks over a wall of cardboard cut-outs past a helpless Ed de Goey. Now, pushing himself to be fit for the game tomorrow at Barnsley, where Chelsea will try to get their championship challenge off the ground after their woeful start at Coventry City a fortnight ago, he is the last away from the gymnasium, too.

He looks like one of the good guys from an Elmore Leonard novel as he walks, tanned and Miami-cool. The sunglasses are missing but a smart, casual shirt with an understated floral pattern hangs down over his khaki shorts and he is musing over a letter. More than any of his compatriots that play in the FA Carling Premiership, he is the epitome of Latin chic, as elegant and assured on the pitch as he is off it.

Things are just about as good as they can get for Di Matteo. He is a fixture in Cesare Maldini's Italy team and is still basking in the glory of the 35-yard drive that cannoned into the Middlesbrough net off the crossbar in the first minute of the FA Cup Final last season and set Chelsea on their way to their first leading trophy for 26 years.

After a year getting used to his new surroundings after his £4.9 million move from Lazio last summer, he is revelling in London life, taking pleasure in observing the minutiae of existence in the capital, like the way commuters on the Underground stand on the right if they want to stay still as they travel up the escalators, on the left if they want to hurry.

As someone who spent much of his formative years outside Italy, mainly in his parents' adopted home in German-speaking Switzerland, he lives his life here with an immigrant's eye, stimulated by everything around him, feeding off it and gaining inspiration from it rather than being weighed down by it.

"In London," he said, "I can walk around like everyone else. I am just a man walking around. Even if people recognise me, they say 'hello' and maybe they ask for a signature but you can live your life and do normal things. In Rome, there was no escape. You were a footballer and that was it. They do not look at you as a person. You are not a person there, you are just a player. It was not easy.

"I just like everything about London. We get so much more privacy here for one thing. Perhaps it is because the people are a bit more reserved than in Italy and they are almost afraid to make contact with you. But they are kind, too, when you need help. It is a great city for young people, too. It seems to be a city that lives 24 hours a day. It never stops.

"You see many different things, many different cultures, you learn how other people live. I just like to walk around and observe people, how they move, how they dress, how they speak, just to have more experience of this culture. Sometimes I like to go to nightclubs. Just sometimes. When I go once, that is enough for a long time."

Beneath the chiselled features and the snappy, expensive clothes, Di Matteo, 27, is a gentle, softly-spoken man, someone who has known adversity in life, has battled successfully to triumph over it and is the more serene for the achievement.

It began with racial abuse when he was growing up in Switzerland, the son of an immigrant worker, an olive-skinned boy in the country near Schaffhausen, and continued as he struggled to get his professional career off the ground.

He played for two seasons at Schaffhausen before injury wrecked his third and in 1991 he moved on to FC Zurich, where he played 34 games and scored six goals. From there, he was transferred to SC Aarau before he got the move he and his parents had wanted, back to Italy with Lazio.

Even there, though, his troubles did not end. He spent three seasons with the Rome club under the austere management of the Czech, Zdenek Zeman, a dour disciplinarian who put the emphasis on stamina in training and discouraged Di Matteo from pursuing one of his principal strengths, his ability to break swiftly from midfield into attack.

He made his debut for the national side that first season under Arrigo Sacchi but fell foul of Zeman soon after when he took a day off training after an international. Zeman made his criticism public and some supporters went to Di Matteo's home and destroyed his entry phone and postbox.

Things went from bad to worse and, when Di Matteo eventually left for Chelsea, some supporters spat at the taxi he was travelling in as it sped away from the office of the Lazio owner, Sergio Cragnotti, after the deal had been signed.

It is ironic then, that things have improved so much for Di Matteo since he left his homeland. The bad times appear to have left him a happily unflappable character who can appreciate when life is sweet, who is not fazed by anything.

The thing that touches him closest, perhaps, is the fact that his sister, Concetta, is blind. "Sometimes I feel guilty," he said, "because I have had the fortune to do what I want to do, to earn a lot of money, to be famous and other things that my sister does not have because she is blind and she does not have the fortune. It is hard, because you always have this inside you but I cannot change it, so I go on and try to do my best. Life has to go on."

He is the sort of player who deserves the success he is enjoying now, the sort who takes nothing for granted and works for his achievements. He admits he took a gamble when he left Rome for west London, that friends told him he might never be picked for Italy again. But his performances have ensured otherwise and he is almost certain to line up against England in Rome on October 11 when the two countries meet in the likely showdown for first place in the World Cup European qualifying group two.

If Zola and Vialli, for different reasons, grabbed most of the headlines last season, Di Matteo was a consistent force of creativity and industry in midfield and finished the season on the highest note possible, breaking from his own half in the FA Cup Final and unleashing that unstoppable shot to break Middlesbrough's resistance almost before the game had started.

This season, after the arrival of Gustavo Poyet from Real Zaragoza, he is likely to play on the left side of midfield, lighting up games with his darting runs and his quick, incisive through-balls. Despite that opening-day defeat at Coventry, he is, typically, optimistic about the season ahead. "We were so disappointed after Coventry," Di Matteo said. "We could not believe it.

"But I think we will finish very high this season. I do not know if we are going to win the championship but we will challenge the top teams. It is not too early for us to do it, even though we have new players. We have a team that can win the League but it depends on many details.

"For me, I think and I hope that I can play even better this season than last season. I try to improve every day at football and I think we have better players now. We have a good team and a good spirit here."

Off the pitch, when he is not studying the mores of the English, he tries to find time to indulge his love of the cinema and eats at quiet restaurants near his Kensington home with a small band of Italian and English friends. He likes his life so much here that he hardly misses Italy.

"It is difficult for me," he said, "because there are so many things I want to do but I just don't have the time. When you are playing three games a week, it is very hard for the body to recover and you have to rest a lot. I just like to go out to restaurants with my friends to chat. I make sure that I enjoy my life."

Goals such as the one against Middlesbrough help, of course, but he said that has changed nothing save, perhaps, that people recognise him a little quicker in the street. He has learnt not to seek happiness in ephemeral things and his happiness is redoubling. Bob Dylan claimed once that he pitied the poor immigrant. If he had met Roberto Di Matteo, he might never have written the song.

KIERAN DOHERTY

Di Matteo, left, and Zola, his team-mate and compatriot, celebrate the breathtaking goal that put Chelsea on the way to lifting the FA Cup, their first leading trophy for 26 years

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Scottish football adjusts to unexpected delights

Rest will play when Old Firm is away

By Kevin McCarra

AN IMPOSTOR can sometimes be received with gratitude. The present spell that is attempting to pass itself off as a Scottish football season is a transparent fiction.

The names and addresses of the participants might seem to be in order, but discrepancies are obvious as soon as closer inspection is made. Clubs that are known to be dreary are now conducting themselves in the most flamboyant manner.

Normal, tedious service may eventually be resumed, but the present series of bizarre events is flowing through Scottish football like a refreshing stream in a parched landscape. Kilmarnock can never have anticipated that they would be travelling to Easter Road this afternoon searching for some sort of solace after a 6-2 defeat by Stirling Albion in the Coca-Cola Cup.

It is part of the comfortable tirade against the sport north of the border that there should always be grumbles over its predictable nature. Now, those grouchy voices are stilled, for the blessings of the unexpected can hardly be asked to take a more substantial form than the thrashing of the Tennents Scottish Cup holders by one of the humbler members of the Bell's Scottish League first division.

While Kilmarnock may be dumbstruck, others in Scottish football are only just starting to find their voices. The idea that the entertainment matters more than the result may seem woefully naive, but that principle received the most robust endorsement on Wednesday.

The Hibernian supporters had seen their team beaten 2-1 by Dundee United on Wednesday, with an equaliser in injury time and a sloppy winner conceded soon after. Even the chance of an equaliser was spurned, when Chic Charnley's penalty zoomed over the bar.

The visiting fans might have been expected to be smashing windows and picking fights, but they dealt calmly with the result as they made their way out of Tannadice. Even in disappointment, they could not ignore the fine football being played by their team.

Against United, Hibernian had opened the scoring with a sumptuous goal and such a piece of artifice no longer comes as a shock, given that the club holds the lead in the premier division. The prominence of the Easter Road side, of course, owes something to the low profile being adopted by the Old Firm.

Celtic, under new management, have rendered themselves unobtrusive by losing and a third defeat, at St Johnstone this afternoon, would constitute the worst beginning to a League season in the club's history. Rangers simply have not been playing. Today, they enter only their second League match, when they face Dundee United at Ibrox.

Although the Old Firm have been absent, the boisterousness of the past few weeks is not just that of a class whose intimidating teacher has left the room. Clubs, as if tiring of their dour ways, appear to be attempting stylish football.

Last Saturday saw Dunfermline Athletic defeat Celtic 2-1 while also missing many chances. On the other side of Scotland, Heart of Midlothian and Aberdeen were concocting a tumultuous match, won 4-1 by the Edinburgh side. If this season is to be viewed as some form of counterfeit, it is an imitation of far more worth than the genuine article.

Past wins cut no ice with McGhee

DERBY matches generate intense rivalry among the local populace and nowhere will that be better illustrated than when West Bromwich Albion take on Wolverhampton Wanderers at The Hawthorns in the Nationwide League first division tomorrow (Russell Kempson writes). The respective supporters share a mutual dislike; tribal instincts will be to the fore.

Wolves twice got the better of their Black Country neighbours last season, but Mark McGhee, their manager, does not believe that the 2-0 and 4-2 victories will hold any relevance this time around. "I don't think there will be goals galore again, but it should be an open game," he said. "They will want to come at us and take the early initiative and we'll be playing the same way.

"It is always a game to savour, something to really look forward to, and it gives the fans a chance, if their team has won, to go into work on Monday morning with their heads held high."

West Bromwich have been preparing in a low-key manner. John Trewick, the first-team coach, said: "We haven't even mentioned the fact that we're playing Wolves. Sure, it's a key game, there's a bit of added spice to it, but we've tried to play it down. We just want our players to concentrate."

Each side is unbeaten in three league and cup outings this season, with Wolves yet to concede a goal.

FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Continuing his series on the Premiership new boys, **Mark Hodkinson** meets the man who has chronicled Barnsley's fortunes for 37 years

A fan who really makes headlines

Life on a local newspaper is often fraught. There is invariably a reader at the reception desk grumbling that his daughter has been mistakenly married to the best man, or that the golden wedding couple had their honeymoon in Scarborough, not Cleethorpes. They hate Cleethorpes. It always rains when they go there, the shops are awful; damn it, they had their first row in Cleethorpes.

There are very few free lunches, both metaphorically and literally, for the diligent scribes that amass column inches under the watchful, sensitive eye of their own community. So, when the man from *The Times* calls at the *Barnsley Chronicle* promising the wondrous delights of chicken in a basket *et al*, one might expect a "Yes please, make mine a turkey in a hamper" response. Think again, for this is Barnsley, home of the pragmatist. "No, thanks. I always bring sandwiches on Mondays," is the "Made in Barnsley" response from Keith Lodge, the sports editor.

Lodge has spent 37 years at the *Chronicle* and has covered Barnsley Football Club throughout this time, from the old fourth division to the FA Carling Premiership, Hartlepool United to Arsenal, Eric Winstanley to Georgi Hristov. He had originally hoped to pull on a Barnsley shirt, a goalkeeper's as it happens, but after training with the club as a youth he decided instead to write about it and became a reporter on his home-town newspaper.

LIFE AT THE TOP

Rather like the club, Lodge has suddenly found himself a conspicuous figure since he is Barnsley FC's most trusted and reliable messenger. He has missed just four matches, home and away, in the past 20 years and his expert knowledge is shamelessly mined by his peers in the press box.

The *Chronicle* is based in a sunny office in Church Street, a pleasant stroll away from the impressive Town Hall. Lodge has not yet had time to eat his sandwiches, but kindly assents to another interview about his beloved Barnsley. He is dressed conservatively — neat shirt, plain tie, pen in pocket. He wears metal-rimmed glasses and, appropriately enough, a Michael Parkinson haircut. He is friendly, but wary.

He has not been best-pleased by the way that Barnsley has been portrayed over the past few weeks.

His report on their opening game, against West Ham United, was an unequivocal broadside to his colleagues from the national press. He bemoans the caricature of the Barnsley fan "Clog-clomping down the cobbled streets". "It's of no relevance, all that stuff," he said. "We've had an awful lot of coverage and I think a good deal of it has been patronising."

Many have pondered on the source of Barnsley's success, though few have the benefit of Lodge's antecedence; he remembers going to watch them when attendances were sometimes below 2,000. "It's down to Danny Wilson [the manager] and the tremendous support he has had from the board," Lodge said. "He has worked his socks off for the club and I think his man-management is superb. I like Danny. He is an informal chap. You can always knock on his door."

JOHN ANGERSON / GUZELIAN

Lodge has used the *Chronicle* to defend his beloved Barnsley against patronising coverage from other parts of the media

Lodge has worked long hours filling pages of news of Barnsley's fortunes, helped by his son, Andrew, who is also a sports reporter on the paper, and his sister, Sheila, a part-time employee. The paper has rightly recognised that these days are halcyon and it sings the town's delight on every page. Amid this rarefied Premiership air, the *Chronicle's* sub-editors have dreamt some fanciful dreams, hence bizarre headlines such as, "How Psycho Found God" and "Fancy That: A Turbo-pigeon".

When the fixtures were announced earlier in the summer, Lodge was aware that he would have to miss the game that fell on October 25. As a member of the North Gawber choir, he was due to perform at the Royal Albert Hall.

"And guess what? It's only the day when we're due to play Manchester United at Old Trafford," Lodge laughed. The choir will now be one voice down on the day. It was a game that he could not miss.

There will be other unmissable games, starting with the visit of Chelsea tomorrow. Fancy that: a turbo-powered season.

Bastin sets Arsenal goal standard

Wright still has some way to go before he passes the real club record at Highbury

BRIAN GLANVILLE

There are, as we know, lies, damned lies and statistics. We also know that comparisons are odious. In the case of Ian Wright, Cliff Bastin, and their goals for Arsenal, they are surely irrelevant.

Notionally, Wright needs only a couple of goals to overhaul Bastin's record of 178. But apart from a couple in that non-event, the FA Charity Shield, all Bastin's goals came in just two tournaments: the old first division (150) and the FA Cup (26).

In these two tournaments, Wright so far has scored just 133 goals, 121 of them in the championship. Still far behind Bastin's total.

In Bastin's day, neither the Football League Cup, in its various guises, nor the European tournament existed. Wright's striking rate is quite exceptional, but where is the valid analogy? (We might even add to Bastin's total the two he scored for Arsenal against Austria at Highbury in 1933).

I should declare an interest. As a teenager, I "ghosted" Bastin's autobiography, *Cliff Bastin Remembers*, which was something of a *succes de scandale*, at the time.

It was hardly meant to be. I had intended it very much as a homage, an act of piety, to a great player who, it seemed to me as a 17-year-old Arsenal fan and burgeoning journalist, deserved a book as much as such other Titans, such as his team-mate, Eddie Hapgood, Tommy Lawton and Frank Swift.

Having frequently passed the Cliff Bastin café on the North Circular Road, I wrote to him and received an answer, thanking me for "your glowing tribute to my career". He had, he said, had a proposal for such a book, but the publishers had planned to sell it for a shilling, which seemed a bit of an insult.

So began my Sunday evening visits to his flat above the café, where his wife regaled us with strong tea and thick cheese sandwiches. Saturday mornings were spent looking up what Bastin did not remember in the British Museum Newspaper Library at Colindale.

His was a stunning career, only to be blighted at the end by the increasing deafness about which he was so sensitive and which would keep him out of the war.

A Devonian, he was a schoolboy international inside forward, playing for Exeter City at 15. Herbert Chapman, who became his mentor and father figure, persuaded him to join Arsenal at 17 in 1929, turning him into a left winger, partnered by another newcomer, the legendary Scotland inside left, Alex James.

It was in the FA Cup Final of 1930, against Huddersfield Town, Chapman's old club, that Bastin took a very quick, controversial free kick and James scored the first Arsenal goal. Six years later, again at Wembley, it was from Bastin's cross that Ted Drake scored the winner against Sheffield United.

In the 1932-33 season, one of Arsenal and Bastin's five prewar championship-winning campaigns, he scored an astonishing 33 goals, all from the left wing.

Quiet, introverted and reserved, never immodest, but wholly convinced of his own stature. Bastin's detachment paid off on the field, when nothing seemed to upset him.

Not even the violent behaviour of the Italians in the notorious Battle of Highbury in November 1934, when England, fielding seven Arsenal men, were so shamelessly maltreated. Bastin assured me that he had played in rougher games.

At 19, he had won every honour in the game and, 21 times capped, he became an outstanding England player, more often at inside rather than outside left.

He had skill, he had pace, he had an explosive left foot. Just before the 1934 World Cup finals, Hugo Meisl, the inspiration of the Austria "Wunderteam", said that his tired side had no hope of winning, but, if he could have just one player, win it would. That player? "Bastin," he said.

Bastin's arrival at Highbury was not propitious. At the main entrance, he was stopped by a commissionaire, who asked him what he wanted. Bastin replied that he wanted to join the other Arsenal players.

"Well, sonny," the man said, patting him on the back and edging him away, "you're a bit young at the moment. But never mind! One day, you may be good enough to play for Arsenal." It took some time for Bastin to talk his way in.

Wright is dressed to rub shoulders with such revered company as Bastin, left, who scored more league goals for Arsenal

CLIFF BASTIN	IAN WRIGHT
Seasons: 1929-30 to 1938-39 1946-47	**Seasons: 1991-92 to present**
League goals: 150 (350 appearances)	**League goals: 121** (198 appearances)
	Football League Cup goals: 28 (28 appearances)
FA Cup goals: 26 (41 appearances)	**FA Cup goals: 12** (15 appearances)
Charity Shield: 2 (4 appearances)	**Charity Shield: 1** (1 appearance)
	European competitions: 15 (19 appearances)
Total: 178 (395 appearances)	**Total: 177** (261 appearances)

Gullit fumes as tasteless joke hits Chelsea share price

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

RUUD GULLIT, the Chelsea player-manager, was at the centre of a bizarre and tasteless scam yesterday that suggested he had died in a car crash. The "news" was broadcast on information screens throughout the City, which caused immediate concern among dealers.

Although Chelsea officials were quick to scotch the rumour, shares in Chelsea Village, the club's holding company, dropped 50 pence on the day's trading. Gullit only knew of the story when he began to receive a series of phonecalls in his office at the Chelsea training ground.

"For people to want to make a profit out of shares in this way is completely without taste," Gullit said. "It means they don't have any respect for me, my friends or the fans. Everybody was calling me, trying to find out what had happened, and the only thing that had happened was that my car had been washed.

"It wasn't very nice at all. A joke can be good, and these sort of things can happen, but they showed me no respect. That's the worst thing. You don't do that."

Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, was relieved that reports of Gullit's death were premature. He will soon discuss with him the nature of a new contract, which could keep him at Stamford Bridge well into the next millennium.

"Those talks will be very soon, in the next few weeks," Gullit said. "I will tell you what I'm going to do after I've made my decision. I don't know when that will be."

Sasa Curcic, the Aston Villa midfield player, believes that he has played his last game at Villa Park. He has been involved in a long-running dispute with Brian Little, the Villa manager, that began soon after his £4 million move from Bolton Wanderers last summer, and the split now appears permanent.

Wolverhampton Wanderers, the Nationwide League first division club, are favourites to sign him if they can agree personal terms. "It's 99 per cent certain that I will leave Villa to join Wolves," Curcic said yesterday. "I've no chance of playing in the Villa first team at present and that's down to Little. I'm fed up with the way he and the Villa directors have treated me. I've not been given the chance to prove myself.

"I'm desperate for first-team football and, at Wolves, I could prove that I am one of the best midfielders around. Wolves is also near enough to Birmingham for me not to have to move house."

Barnsley have failed in their attempt to sign Iain Dowie, the Northern Ireland and West Ham United striker. Dowie has been offered a new contract at Upton Park.

You can't make a dummy out of Hoddle

Off the line by **Russell Kempson**

GLENN HODDLE, the England coach, may have mellowed a touch since his elevation to the international brotherhood, but few can forget the withering looks that he frequently used, at club level, when faced with what he considered to be a banal or intrusive question. Many an interrogator wilted under his intense glare.

At the Carlsberg Concert, at Wembley Stadium, last weekend, Hoddle agreed to be photographed alongside the wax figures of Rod Stewart and Jon Bon Jovi. As the publicity stunt progressed, though, Stewart's nose dropped off and Bon Jovi's chin sagged. Even though it was more a result of the stifling heat than anything Hoddle had said, embarrassed officials ordered that the pictures should forever be hidden from public view.

Friends again

Peace has broken out between John Madejski, the Reading chairman, and Clive "The Hound" Baskerville, football correspondent of the *Reading Evening Post*. Baskerville was banned — lucky man — from Reading's dire 1-0 defeat against Swindon Town last Saturday, for printing the caustic comments of Jimmy Quinn, Reading's former joint player-manager, but a truce has now been reached. No longer in the doghouse, the Hound is back.

Seedy prize

Man-of-the-match award-winners in the Coca-Cola Cup last season were presented with a mountain bike but, this time around, the oh-so-lucky star performer receives a full-sized plastic football with red-and-black patches. On pressing one of the panels, a CD player gradually emerges from the innards. "It's ghastly, one of the tackiest things I've ever seen," a Nationwide League club official said.

Homing instinct

Most FA Carling Premiership players spend their summers lazing on the beaches of Mauritius or the Maldives, soaking up the rays and drinking tequila until sunrise. Not so Fernando Nelson, Aston Villa's Portugal defender. Nelson, with one eye on his future career, relaxed by supervising the building of a set of apartments back home in Oporto. He is also getting used to fatherhood — his wife, Maria, having produced a son. He has been christened, simply, Ivan Nelson Carvalho da Silva Vieira Alves.

Early riser

Annual meetings can be tricky affairs, when Mr Ordinary vents his spleen and the company bigwigs get a grilling. Walsall thus had the right idea when they staged their yearly get-together at 9am. Only nine shareholders turned up. Could the early start also have been related to the fact that the Bescot Stadium's rent has risen from £99,000 a year to £120,000? Facing the music was Jeff Bonsor, the Walsall chairman . . . and Bescot landlord.

Hush funds

Mystery, secrecy and intrigue in north London . . . Arsenal supporters wishing to check the transfer fees of Arsène Wenger's ever-expanding squad will need to look farther afield than the club's handbook, magazine or match programme. Word has come down from on high, from those who must be obeyed at Highbury, that on no account should such sensitive financial details be registered in any official publication. Those who transgress will be punished by a tackle from that hard but fair Frenchman, Patrick Vieira.

Easy money

Testimonial matches often take on a familiar guise — veteran player or staff man strolls throughout tame proceedings, referee awards non-existent penalty near the end, veteran player or staff man scores. A perfect finale, money in the bank and everybody goes home happy. Graham Allner, 14 years with Kidderminster Harriers and the longest-serving manager in the Vauxhall Conference, declined such an active role during his benefit game against Aston Villa at Aggborough. "I want to enjoy the proceeds of my testimonial," he said. "I don't want to use them to bury me."

STRANGE BUT TRUE: After the Labour landslide at the last general election, only six football clubs are in Conservative constituencies. All are from the Nationwide League — Nottingham Forest, Southend United, Barnet, Wycombe Wanderers, Bournemouth and Macclesfield Town.

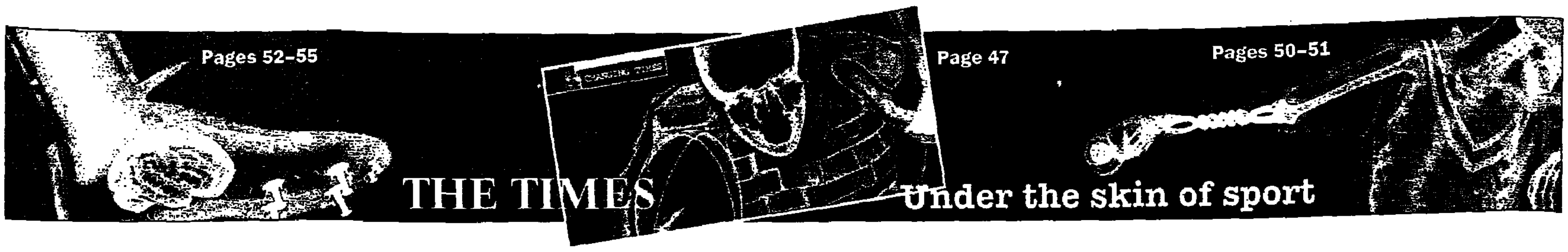
هكذا من الأصل

COLIN MONTGOMERIE 45
Fighting fatigue
on a demanding
tour of duty

SPORT

SATURDAY AUGUST 23 1997

STEVE McMANAMAN 53
Hoping for normal
service to resume
after pain in Spain



Tufnell spins thread of hope for Atherton and England

MICHAEL
HENDERSON

At the Oval

IT WAS late in the season, too late to change the outcome of a series Australia have dominated since losing the first Test in June, but Phil Tufnell, the Middlesex slow left-arm bowler England chose to ignore earlier in the season, enabled his team-mates to recover a measure of self-respect at the Oval yesterday.

By taking seven wickets for 66, his best performance in Test cricket, "Tuffers" gave the south London crowd something to shout about. They did, heartily, until the roof began to fall in on England's batting for the second successive day. It was a familiar tale of woe by the close when they were struggling to carry the match into a third day.

Nobody can point the finger at Tufnell. He has been selected for every Test this summer only to be released on the previous five occasions because the pitches were thought to offer the quicker bowlers more assistance. It has been a difficult time for him, though he has done his best not to get upset, even as Australia overturned the loss at Edgbaston to take an unassailable 3-1 lead.

Yesterday, he bowled unchanged from the start of play, earning considerable purchase from the footholds established by bowlers at the Vauxhall End. Australia, who began the day on 77 for two, were dismissed for 218, giving them a lead of 38. By nightfall, all had changed again with England three wickets down and only 14 runs ahead when bad light stopped play.

It was in the last session of play on Thursday that Tufnell took his first two wickets. Michael Atherton, the England captain, had him on straight away yesterday morning and he finished off the Australia innings half an hour after tea on a day lengthened by two stoppages for drizzle.

CLIVE MASON/ALLSPORT

Blewett, who was top scorer for Australia with 45, perishes in Tufnell's web, caught behind by Stewart in the final Test yesterday

Through his example, he had given England a toehold on the Test, if only their batsmen could play with greater application the second time around. On the evidence they supplied last night before bad light stopped play with the spinners on, they could not.

The crowd sided completely with Tufnell, even though he comes from the other side of the river. It is three years since an English crowd saw him play in Tests, against South Africa at Headingley, and in the months since then there have been times when he despaired of playing again. In fact, this is only his seventh Test appearance in this country. But this was his hour of triumph on a ground that has treated him favourably before, and the old boy relished every moment of it.

It was six years ago, and to Tufnell it must seem a lifetime, that he bamboozled six batsmen here on a giddy Saturday afternoon, and led the way to a notable victory against West Indies to level the series at two apiece. Now he was back, bouncing in to bowl and celebrating every success with joy unconfined. As he led his team-mates up the steps to the dressing-room at the end, people stood to acclaim the maverick spinner.

Tufnell has never charted an untroubled course through cricket, or life. He was expelled from Highgate School, instructed to "cut off that pony-tail" when he joined Middlesex, and has been up many an emotional hill and down a few temperamental dales. Middlesex have backed him but even there among friends, he has had his moments.

On a particularly fraught tour of Australia two winters ago, when he was the victim of some outrageous abuse from the crowds, he spent a night in the secure unit of a mental hospital, and there was serious talk of sending him home. Away from the cricket there have been some "domestics", culminating in a visit from his (then) father-in-law, who brought a brick with him.

> *'This Little Jack Horner dismissal of Healy lit Alec Stewart's face with a perfect mixture of feelings . . . joy fought for mastery over the most hideous embarrassment'*
> **Simon Barnes, page 50**

Through it all, Tufnell never lost his ability, though there were times when he was used as a defensive bowler rather than the attacking spinner he is by instinct. Yesterday, as Australia's batsmen jabbed at him, lunging from the crease he was clearly thrilled by his reversion to the style that suits him best. Once more he was bowling to take the wickets of good players and he got them. It was a day he rediscovered himself.

Until yesterday, Tufnell's best performance in Tests was in Christchurch five years ago when New Zealand collapsed on the last afternoon, and he took seven for 47. Those remain his best figures but this was certainly a better display of spin bowling, admittedly on a pitch that he would like to carry around with him. Until Shane Warne danced down the pitch and clattered him into the pavilion, nobody took liberties.

Atherton spoke earlier this week of how he had had to tell Tufnell he would not be playing in the previous Tests, and how they had both wanted to laugh at the predictability of it, but managed to put on a sensible face. It would be nice to think Tufnell could now regain his place on a regular basis, and contribute to English victories in the coming years. Do not bet that way, though. It will lead to the poorhouse.

Hill pays high price for wage gamble

FROM MICHAEL CALVIN IN SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS

DAMON HILL endured a painful lesson in the laws of supply and demand at Spa-Francorchamps yesterday afternoon when, within an hour of denying he was in danger of pricing himself out of a job in a buyer's market, he lost his most realistic chance of another world championship.

Ron Dennis, managing director of McLaren, brought forward the announcement that he has retained David Coulthard and Mika Hakkinen for 1998 in response to Hill's suggestion, in another hastily prepared statement, that he had rejected his approach because it failed to demonstrate "a serious commitment to me as a driver."

In the doublespeak that passes as the language of choice in the Formula One paddock at this time of year, that means that the McLaren offer, of a basic $2 million (about £1.25 million), topped up with bonuses of $100,000 for each world championship point, was deemed insufficient for a driver of Hill's perceived seniority.

Dennis twisted the knife by suggesting that he had "placed commitment to winning as the principal criterion for the selection process". In other words, he believed that Hill had placed cash above championship credibility. It was a devastating rebuke, which placed into doubt the strategy of Hill's career development.

His gamble, in relying on the financial muscle traditionally applied by a champion, began to unravel after he had finished fifth in free practice for the Belgian Grand Prix tomorrow. Although initially non-committal, Hill was eventually goaded into rash self-promotion by suggestions that his rejection of McLaren smacked of greed.

He justified his negotiating stance by claiming he had been offered $20 million to sign a two-year contract with an unnamed team, believed to be Sauber. "It is not right to expect me to roll over with my legs in the air and forgo all the things I have worked for in my career," he said. "I would be betraying everything I have done. I am not just delivering for Damon Hill. I am delivering for my fans, the country, the team. But I am not so desperate as to do that for nothing."

Coulthard accepted with alacrity the deal that Hill rejected, explaining that "on paper we have a world championship-winning team next season". Hill's options, by contrast, are likely to be limited. Despite his attraction to Benson and Hedges, the British-based sponsor of Jordan, he will have to drop his wage demands to fit into the team's budget. Alain Prost, whose eponymous team now offers Hill his best chance of a move from TWR Arrows, has a second seat spare but insisted yesterday that it will be filled by "someone who is fast and cheap".

Hill: rebuked

Spa's challenge, page 48

Crowd's ignorance proves a fat lot of good

Australians may not be much use on a toboggan

but their sledging has frozen England's rabbits

LYNNE TRUSS

The trouble with being new to cricket is that, when you read an innocent phrase such as "a rabbit on strike", the image of a bunny on a picket line just won't go away. "The Australians are terrible sledgers" will likewise place all sorts of ski-slope catastrophes in your mind, with koala-bear pompom hats scattered poignantly in the snow.

But the worst thing is when someone tries to tell you the difference between a flipper, a wrong 'un and (oh, I don't know) a triple dipstick with reverse pirouette. "It's all down to the third finger," your friend says, cupping an imaginary cricket ball behind his back, like a commissionaire expecting a tip. He lifts a shoulder Quasimodo-fashion and starts to wheel his arm like a windmill. "Arm comes over, see? Third finger snaps forward, see? Topspin, backspin, googly, leg break, sorry, am I getting too technical?"

At which point — as your friend grabs a small rubber cat-toy and unleashes it to veer wildly across the living room, shattering a favourite lampshade — the neophyte just sighs deeply and collects a dustpan from under the sink. It's not the criminal damage that you mind. It's just always embarrassing when people feel the need to lie. "Look, you don't really understand spin bowling," you want to plead, as you sweep up the bits. "But stop pretending, that's all."

Now, the Australia leg spinner Shane Warne's record and reputation are clearly based on a phenomenal skill, yet I honestly believe one of the reasons for the hostile "Fat boy go home" stuff he's experienced in this Test series is that, actually, deep down, no one's got a clue how he does it and it's their ignorance (rather than plain jealousy) that makes them sting.

This is not to say, of course, that Warne isn't irritating in other ways. He is. The earring doesn't work. He famously espouses a pure pizza diet against all health advice. Plus he really, really enjoys winning. When you are facing a deeply grim Ashes defeat, such tireless, childlike pleasure in jumping up and down, dousing the head in champagne and waggling the bottom in triumph

sometimes seem a bit tactless, to say the least.

But basically the English fans are scared. His skill is so heavily disguised, you see, it's actually invisible.

"Show you again?" he threatens, grinning those eerie white lips. "No, don't!" we reply. Though we watch slow-motion replays with a studious frown, the mystery remains intact. "There goes the ball . . . it bounces . . . and ooh-er missus, it's gone round the back of his legs!"

So what is this all leading up to? It's obvious. Shane Warne is living proof of an unjust God. That's what the English cricket fans really think — and they've thought it since 1993, when his first ball in an Ashes Test gave Mike Gatting the fright of his life.

Like Mozart in Peter Shaffer's *Amadeus*, he is God-given genius residing in an oaf. On Thursday, at the Oval, Adam Hollioake just lifted his bat out of harm's way and watched Warne's ball crash into his stumps. What made Hollioake lift that bat? Divine intervention, that's what.

So you can understand England's resentment, generally. However, there is a deeply stupid aspect to "Fat boy go home" which I've only just realised. You mean, the Australians will leave us next week, and we won't see them here again for *four years*? Yike, that's awful. Imagine the anticlimax when they've gone, the emptiness, the national chorus of *My Baby Has Gawn Down the Plug'ole*.

So who cares that oafs work wonders, or that the Australians are shocking tobogganists (or whatever it is)? "Fat boy stay here," is what we ought to be saying, if we had any sense. "Fat boy stay here, and hey, we might even consider not calling you fat boy any more!"

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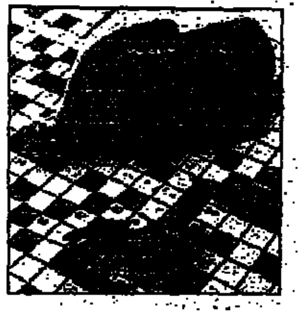

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SATURDAY AUGUST 23 1997

Diana, Dodi, landmines and elephants: **Mary Finnegan** meets the star attractions of a new $60 million movie

Elephants auditioning in Zimbabwe for the film *Mambo*, which Dodi Fayed is said to be interested in backing, and whose anti-landmine message will appeal to Diana, Princess of Wales. Pictures by Peter Nicholls

Jumbo casting couch

Loud flapping sounds, like the sails of a tacking yacht, signalled the start of the audition. The great powering frame with its massive girth momentarily blocked out the morning sun as Jock, the giant bull elephant, lumbered forward. Ahead, the group of casting directors, watching intently, suddenly stiffened.

The elephant's eyesight is poor; the rheumy eyes would make nothing of the small group standing apprehensively to one side. A voice called out, "Forward now!" The bull extended his stride and a cloud of red dust exploded from under its colossal footpads.

From the sideline the voice called out again: "Left, now." and "Go right!"

Uncannily, the enormous beast obeyed every instruction, looking for all the world as if it were picking its way gingerly through a minefield.

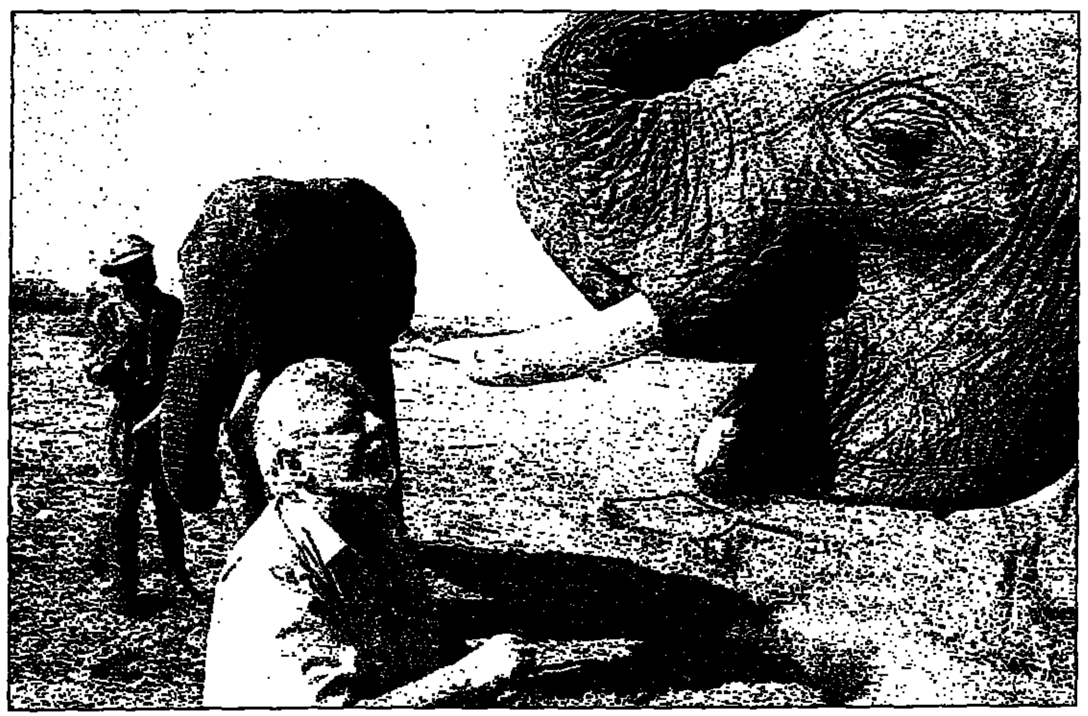
This was the most serious part of its test. Jock, who weighs more than two-and-a-half tonnes, was being put through paces which might win him the star part in a $60 million film — *Mambo*.

The film, which is due to be made next spring, starring Gene Hackman and Embeth Davidtz, has already excited worldwide interest because of its subject matter. The combination of elephants, landmines and the emerging nation of Nelson Mandela's South Africa has set Hollywood abuzz with rumours that the playboy film producer Dodi Fayed is interested in backing it. There have been reports that he has been looking for a project close to the heart of Diana, Princess of Wales, and *Mambo* has all the ingredients to keep the subject of landmines at the forefront of public attention. Tinseltown has even mooted the idea of the Princess becoming a co-producer and, although he plays down the notion, the writer and producer Gordon Thomas welcomes the publicity she has brought for the film.

"When Mr Fayed arrived in Los Angeles after the holiday with Diana in St Topez, I received 22 phone calls from journalists all around the world asking me if Diana was involved in the production. Her support would be welcome. However, I would not expect to see her on the set."

The movie will go ahead with or without the royal connection, which is why Thomas was in Zimbabwe this week to audition elephants from two herds: one at Victoria Falls and another on a farm near Harare.

Rory Hensman, the elephant trainer, who has spent his life working with the animals, dispels the myth that only Indian elephants can be trained. His success with Jock, an African bull, proves otherwise. "Good man," said Hensman, giving Jock an affectionate pat. The elephant curled his trunk around the trainer and nudged him in an obvious show of affection.



Gordon Thomas, the producer of Mambo, welcomes the publicity the Princess has given to landmines

Hensman believes that elephants are far more intelligent than dogs and horses. Why? "Because they figure out what to do in response to what the voice commands rather than the Pavlov conditioning of oher trained animals."

Apart from training elephants for people to ride on, he teaches them to "play" football and polo, to hurl objects and even to "talk" — he will say "Talk to me, Jock" and a series of grunts ensue. In other words, he has taught them to do all the things elephants otherwise do only in a Disney cartoon.

Hurling boulders is a crucial skill for the part of Mambo. The elephant needs to be able to pick up rocks with its trunk and hurl them at the mines to explode them.

The story of Mambo brings togther the old ways of Africa represented by the Gene Hackman character, Tom, a game warden at a national park, with the new Africa as seen through the eyes of his daughter, Beth, played by Embeth Davidtz of *Schindler's List* fame. The daughter returns home from Harvard University with an advanced degree in zoology and immediately finds herself at odds with her father over the government programme for elephants, which involves controlling the numbers by culling old and infirm beasts which destroy vegetation and become a burden on the environment.

As game warden at a national park, Beth's father must oversee and defend the programme. But Beth's childhood friend, Mambo, falls into this category and he and his family are due to be culled.

Beth, emotionally involved with the elephant and convinced by her studies that Mambo possesses useful skills, determines to save him. She is placed in grave danger by a poacher who is intent on killing the bull, and the drama evolves around father and daughter resolving their personal conflict and together setting out to capture the poacher and lead Mambo and his family to safety outside the country. It's a "feel-good" buddy movie, which should do for elephants what Stephen Spielberg did for dinosaurs in *Jurassic Park*. Jeff Dalla Betta, one of the film's producers and a veteran of all-action movies, calls *Mambo* "Free Willy With Tusks".

It's certainly politically correct enough for any royal association. All those involved with the elephants at the Elephant Camp near Victoria Falls are adamant that they will not allow their charges to be used in any way that would demean them or "de-elephantise them".

Hensman's bulls, if they get through the audition, will be expected to cross a mocked-up minefield littered with realistic effects, to use their trunks to battle with crocodiles (clockwork-driven and costing £3,000 apiece), and their massive frames to dig out the human stars of the movie from under film-set landslides.

One of the main concerns of co-producer Gordon Thomas was the safety of the elephants and, of course, the cast and production team. With him was a crew from The Discovery Channel, who were shooting an episode for the animal series *Wild On Set*. Both he and the Discovery team are well aware of public concern for animals used in movies.

Despite the evident skill of the massive bull Jock in picking its way delicately through the

Continued on page 2

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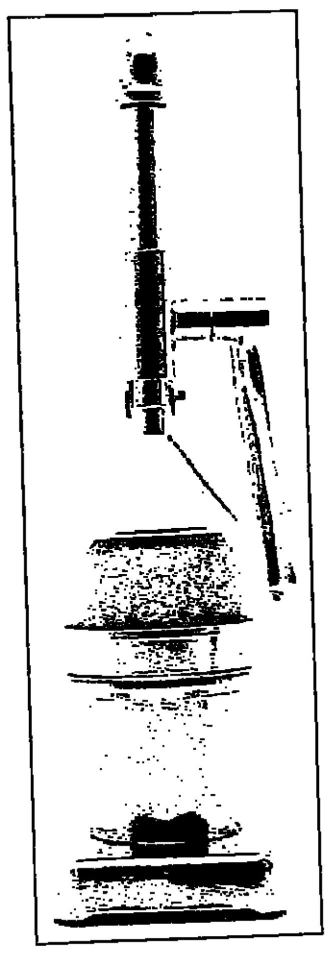
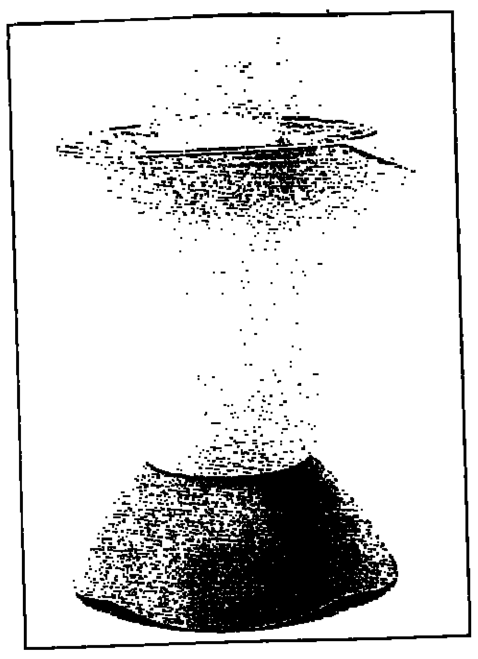
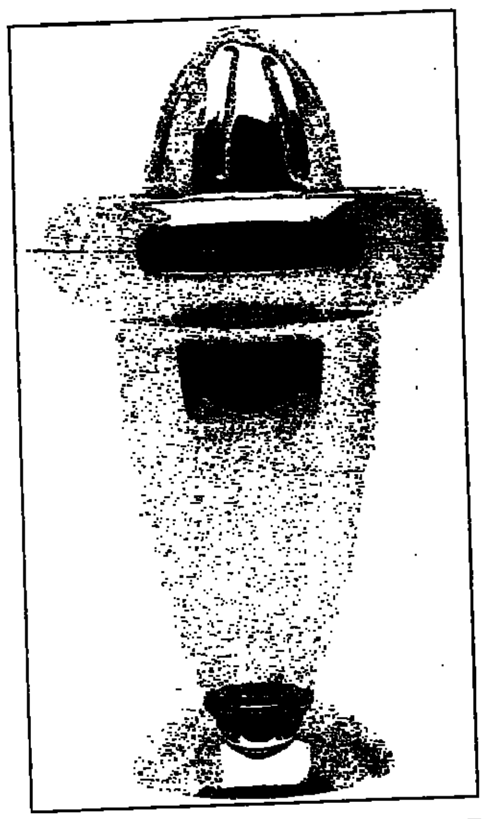
Squeeze the best out of summer with juicers that, with a flick of the wrist or switch, satisfy tangy tastes, says **Sophie Chamier**

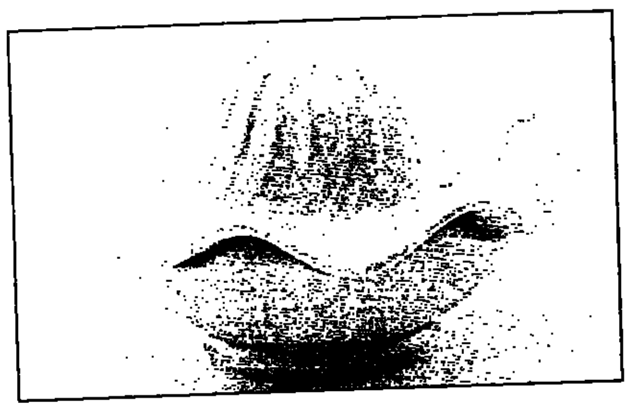
A pressing case for fruit drinks



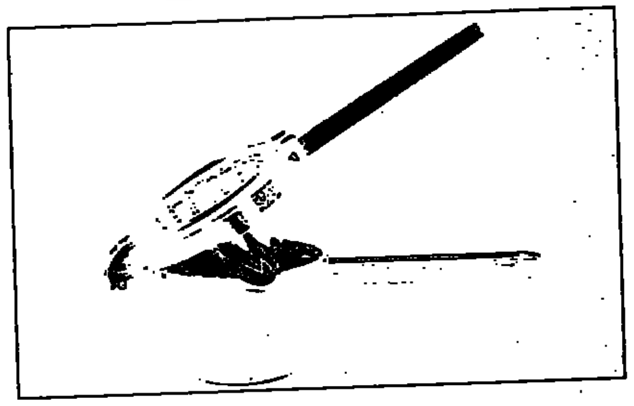




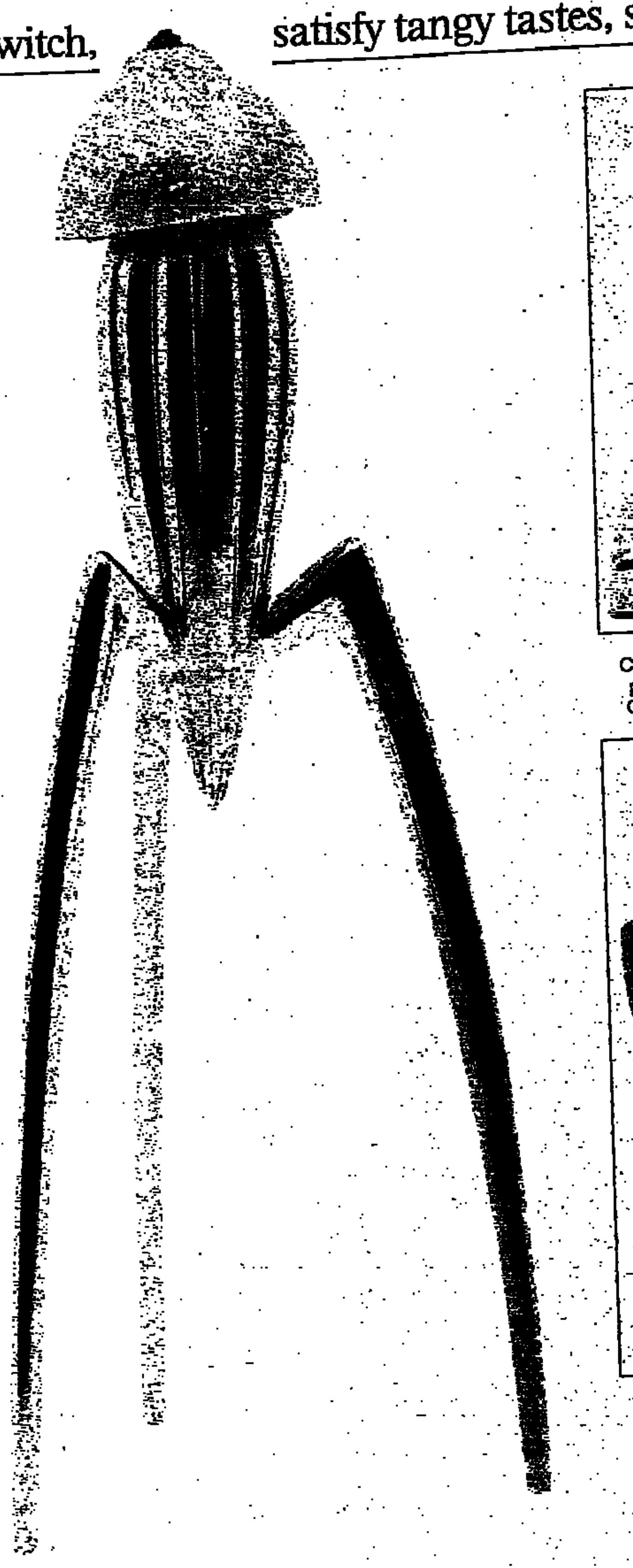
ABOVE: Large chrome juicer, £44.95, Heal's, 196 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (0171-636 1666)
CENTRE: Electric juicer which can squeeze juice and compress pulp, with green and yellow or white and grey detachable jug, £40, Guzzini (0181-646 3883)
RIGHT: German Chromargan stainless-steel juicer, £99, Fortnum & Mason, 181 Piccadilly, London W1 (0171-734 8040)



Earthenware squeezer, with rippling sides and juice-collecting bowl in yellow or blue, £22.95, Susan Pryke Design, Liberty, Regent Street, London W1 (0171-734 1234)



Simple hand-held aluminium hinged citrus press, £12.75, Graham and Green, 7 Elgin Crescent, London W11 (0171-727 4594)



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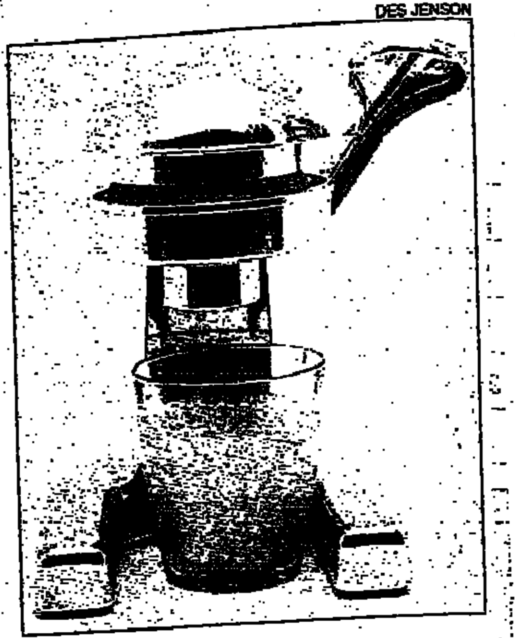
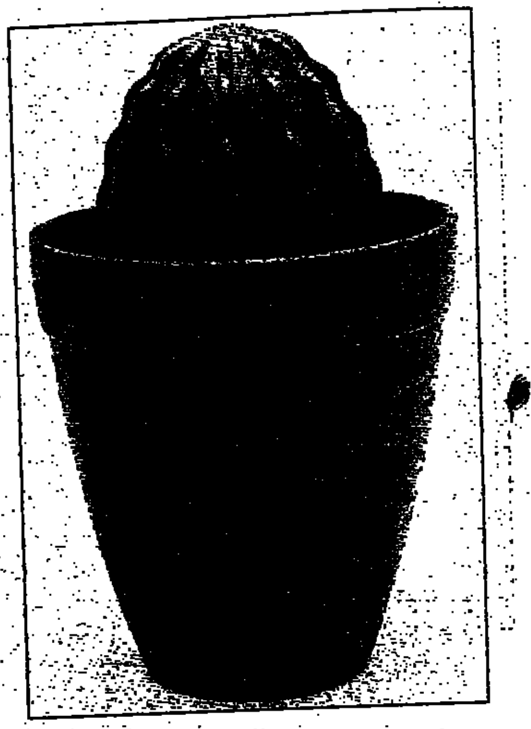


Chrome-plated Dancer press, with removeable parts for easy cleaning, £58.50, Graham and Green, 7 Elgin Crescent, W1 (0171-727 4594)



ABOVE: Cactus-shaped plastic juicer, with detachable jug, £7.50, in orange and lime green or brick red and dark green, The Source, 26-40 Kensington High Street, W8 (0171-937 2626)
LEFT: Juicy Salif aluminium squeezer, designed by Philippe Starck, £41, selected branches of John Lewis nationwide (0171-629 7711)

'An association with Diana would help boost the movie'

Continued from page 1

imaginary minefield. Thomas was worried and bombarded Hensman with questions. How would the herd react when there were explosions going off everywhere, for example? "Not a problem," Hensman reassured Thomas.

The previous day on his farm at Chinoyi, 70 miles north of Harare in the burnished bushveld, he had let off several rounds of gunfire right alongside a herd of baby elephants he adopted after a cull destroyed their mothers. "They were completely undisturbed by the shots and, if people around stay calm, they will remain passive," Hensman said. "The old saying is true: that elephants never forget," he added, which seems amazing given the association the babies would have had with gunfire which left them orphaned. Clearly, any trauma they may have associated with the noise has been overcome by the patience, love and care shown to them by their handlers. Elephants also learn from each other, which meant that a new baby arrival to the group was unconcerned during that particularly scary experiment. Thomas also needed to know how much rehearsal time the elephants needed, which was harder to answer, but Hensman explained patiently that an elephant can be taught to do anything given time.

His is a passion combined with utmost respect and shameless affection for the creatures. His wife, Lindy, is equally devoted, and revealed that what the beasts love most is to have their tongues fondled.

Hensman related the poignant tale of how, when his friend was killed by an elephant some years ago in understandable circumstances involving cows and calves, the herd buried his body under dust and laid branches over him as they do for their own dead.

The producers were anxious to know how the herd would react when it was transported to the movie location, the Shamwari Game Reserve near Port Elizabeth, South Africa, 1,700 miles away, which has already been chosen as an ideal location.

The animals will be accompanied by their grooms and will need to be settled for several months before filming to acclimatise themselves. "Some of the animals may be a little too wild to be used in the foreground but they will do nicely as background fill," Thomas said.

Then there are the problems with food to overcome. Elephants eat up to 150lb of fodder a day and, like all vegetarians, prefer their food fresh. "That means we will need a team and logistics of a 'Desert Storm' operation," said Thomas, who is already preparing to send teams ahead of the *Mambo* transporters to prepare tonnes of leaves and grass. "Hannibal didn't have these problems when he took his elephants over the Alps," he said.

Thomas, 64, white-bearded and a former BBC producer and a founder member of *Tomorrow's World* and *Horizon*, is a successful author with sales of more than 40 million to his credit, five of which have been made into films, including *Voyage of the Damned* (which won five Academy Award nominations) and *Time Ran Out*, starring Paul Newman. "The screenplay of that film managed to retain only 29 lines of my original book, which is why I decided the only way to get what I want on screen was to become involved in the production end," Thomas said.

Mambo is his first venture into Hollywood movies as producer/writer and has travelled 6,000 miles from his home outside Dublin to screen test the Hensman herd.

PETER NICHOLLS

Elephants love to have their tongues fondled, which helps to calm them when filming

REX

PERIGO MINAS!

Diana, Princess of Wales, in action on her landmine campaign, and her new friend, the playboy film producer Dodi Fayed. They have been linked to the movie *Mambo*

As part of the producer's pledge to make this the first major film to come out of South Africa under Mandela's government, the crew will be supplied by the South African co-producers in the venture, Riverstone. They are at present working with Quentin Tarantino on two other films, but *Mambo* is their biggest, Thomas said. "It's going to give South Africa a serious presence on the movie stage."

Adrian Gardiner, the millionaire owner of Shamwari Game Reserve, who has invited the Princess of Wales to visit his game lodge after a visit by the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, is frank about the Fayed-Diana connection. "The people behind *Mambo* know that even an 'understood' association with the Princess would give the movie an enormous boost." When he heard that the film was being written by Thomas, who was in hospital last December recovering from surgery, the flamboyant Gardiner flew to his bedside in Dublin to persuade him that Shamwari was the ideal location for the filming of *Mambo*.

Gardiner, 54, has also sweet-talked a number of wealthy South Africans to invest in the film. "It's not just that they will get their money back, it's what they will be doing for South Africa," he said. "*Mambo* can change the entire face of tourism. Look what happened after *Out of Africa* and *White Mischief* were made in Kenya. Tourism boomed there."

This week, however, that was not the priority for Thomas and the elephant trainers. The production team has several more herds to audition over the coming weeks.

Repeating a line he has heard several times this week, Thomas said: "At least they don't have to go through the casting couch business…"

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Cool way to see out summer

When the going gets hot, slip into a strappy dress with simple but elegant accessories, advises

Heath Brown

Plum silk embroidered dress, £475; matching bag, £110; Mathew Williamson, Browns, 23-27 South Molton Street, W1 (0171-493 1230). Plum satin slingbacks, £99, Kurt Geiger, Selfridges, W1 (0171-546 1888)

Searching clothes stores at this time of year for a late-summer party dress can be a grim experience. The first shipments of autumn hues and heavy fabrics are already in stock and hangers are loaded with deep-plum velvet, heavy sequins and soft leatherette, none of which is suitable for hot summer nights. So what is a girl to do to look and stay cool?

The best bet is to go straight for next season's delicate evening styles, which are cool and elegant enough for a riverside soirée, a refined concert picnic or a leisurely lunch. Although many of the new styles come with autumn or winter scarves or throws, these can be discarded in summer and accessorised to suit the weather.

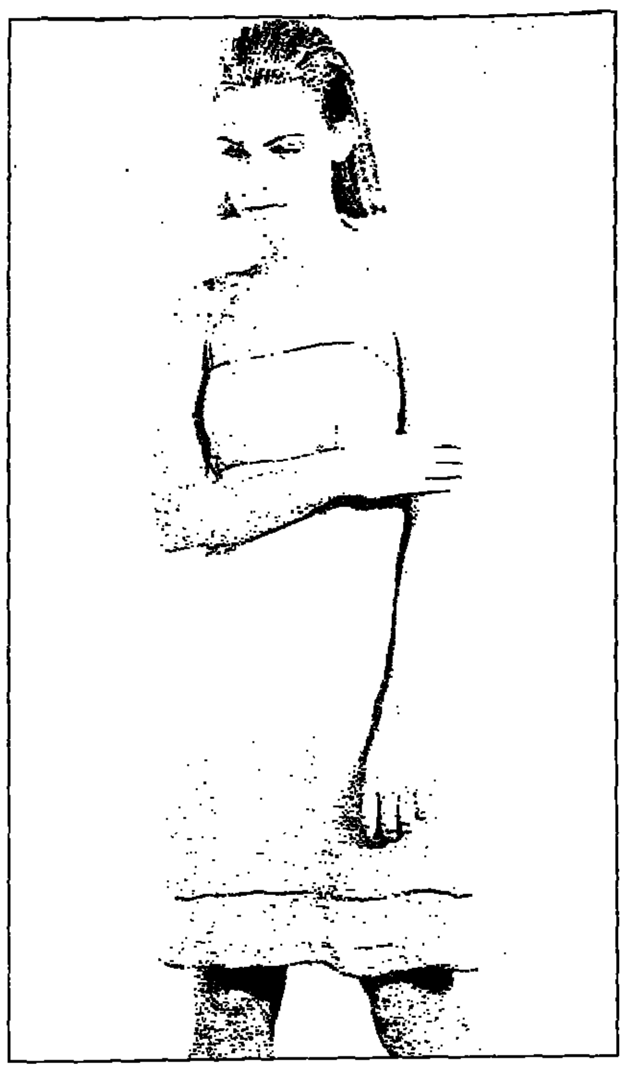
One of the best styles to look out for is the easy-to-wear chiffon slip, which is layered, soft and appealingly short. Because it is loose and floaty, with elegant, graceful layers, this style is suitable for all sizes and shapes, whether it is for an alfresco function or an over-heated ball.

Discreet embroidered details and beading can also liven up the simplest dress in the most subtle ways. Do not to go overboard, though — dainty stitching is more suited to summer, leaving the heavier-embroidered, tasselled or embossed fabrics and severe silhouettes for the winter evenings.

Paler colours — if you can find them — still retain a hint of high summer. Warehouse, Oasis and Next all have these shades in their transitional collections and Monsoon is offering a range of iridescent hues that reflect the evening light, adding a touch of sparkle. Search out light blues and soft pinks — or even try white, which can be mixed with rich colours for winter evenings later in the year.

For a hint of glamour, wear strappy sandals and cool, slip-on heeled mules, and carry simple accessories such as a simple satin grosgrain evening bag or beaded purse. And, as the nights start to draw in, wear an elegant shawl to keep the chill off — a good selection can be found at Fenwicks and branches of Debenhams and Marks & Spencer. It is possible to look ravishingly hot, yet keep your cool: with a little nous, you can mix bits from every season, letting summer looks last all year.

Ice-blue and silver glitter-print shell top, £185; matching long skirt, £410; matching stole, £125, Press & Bastyan, Kate Jones, 28 St Christopher's Place, W1 (0171-636 1614)
Photographs by **Richard Burns**. *Hair and make-up by* **Sally Kvalheim** for Jo Hansford. Styling by **Amandip Uppal**

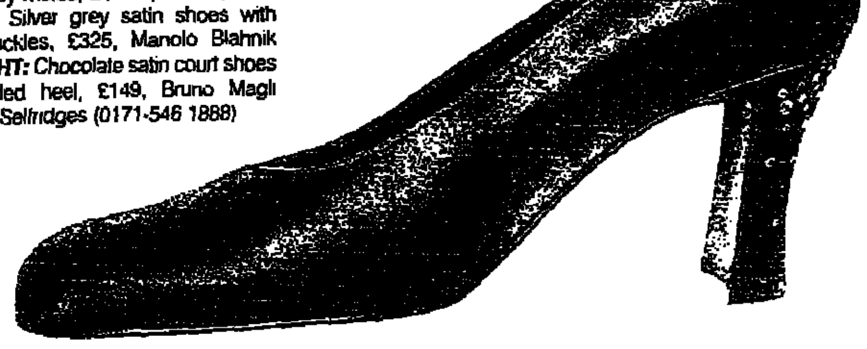


Two-tone grey chiffon dress with fine beading, £55, Warehouse, branches nationwide (0171-278 3491)

Sequinned khaki dress, £150, Monsoon, (0171-313 3000). Copper sequin mules £95, Kurt Geiger, as before. Chocolate *clutch bag, £269, Bruno Magli Couture, Kurt Geiger, as before*

THREE OF A KIND

Sparkly heels are a party must, whether they are strappy stilettos, simple satin *pumps or light, slip-on mules.* H.B



LEFT: Perspex strappy mules, £47.99, Ravel (0171-631 0224). **ABOVE:** Silver grey satin shoes with square diamanté buckles, £325, Manolo Blahnik (0171-352 8622). ***RIGHT:*** *Chocolate satin court shoes* with diamanté studded heel, £149, Bruno Magli Couture, Kurt Geiger, Selfridges (0171-546 1888)

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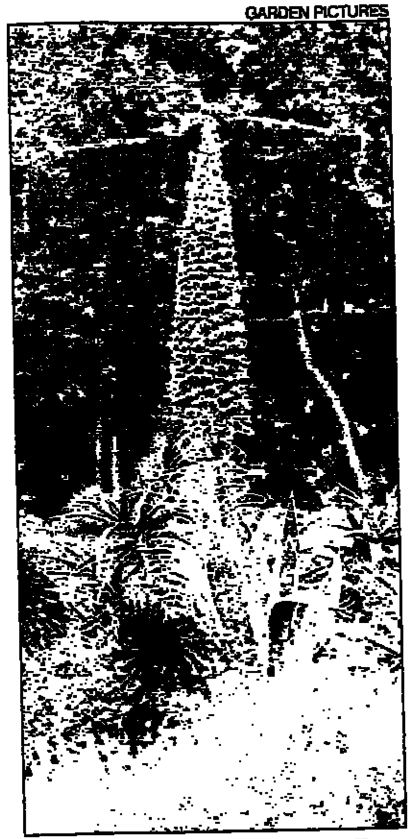
Here is another exciting "lost" garden being brought back to life. Most of Wentworth's 40 acres were laid out in the first half of the 18th century by William Wentworth but were a derelict jungle until 18 years ago when Derek Rogers was appointed head gardener. Today the gardens hold the national collections of species rhododendrons and magnolias and are twinned with one of the Chinese botanic gardens.

From the viewing platform in the Secret Garden at the centre is a view of the "universe", with a large central bed representing the sun, myriad smaller beds representing the stars and four medium-sized beds the equinox. Some of the old-fashioned roses should be in their second flush as you read this.

This Grade I listed garden includes 18 monuments, a Union Jack Walk, woodland, a walk through a tunnel of rhododendrons, terraces, drives, rides and all year round interest.

GARDEN PICTURES



Trebah gardens in Cornwall

■ Lower House Farm, Nantyderry, Gwent, Wales (01873 880257)

Seven miles southeast of Abergavenny. Open tomorrow and Monday for the National Gardens Scheme, 2-6pm. £1.50. Private visits by appointment.

This garden has been featured on television and in magazines for its selection of common and unusual plants, a fern island with wild flowers and, at this time of year, excellent late-flowering perennials. Rose Clay does almost all the work in the three acres.

Vivid blue *Aster X frikartii* 'Humder von Stäfa' and pale lilac flowered *A. thomsonii* 'Nanus' will be strutting their stuff along with pinky-purple flowered winter savory, *Satureja montana*, and a range of verbena and penstemons, and roses and hardy geraniums will be in their second flush.

RON SUTHERLAND

Lower House Farm with its good selection of wild flowers and perennials

■ Trebah, Mawnan Smith, near Falmouth, Cornwall (01326 250448)

Four miles southwest of Falmouth. Open daily all year 10.30am-5pm. £3, £1 children.

This is a good holiday garden: a nature trail and adventure park for children and plenty of plant and landscape interest for grown-ups.

Set in a dramatic, plunging valley with a stream trickling along its base, the damp, lower parts of the 25-acre garden have a jungle-like quality created by vast gunneras, palms, bamboos and tree ferns, while unusual trees dot the rest of the garden, most of which are clearly labelled.

The hydrangeas should be looking good and the views to the sea across the Helford River are stunning.

Trebah was made by Charles Fox in 1831 and was restored through the 1980s by Major and Mrs Hibberd, who are still involved with the gardens.

■ Painshill Park, Cobham, Surrey (01932 868113)

Half a mile west of Cobham on the A425. Open every day except Mondays until October, 10.30am-6pm. £3.50, £1 children.

The park, so close to London and yet with an atmosphere far from metropolitan, is a fairytale landscape of follies, temples and lakes. The estate was built in the mid-18th century by Charles Hamilton, who poured money into the landscape and almost nothing into his house, which was oddly modest by contemporary standards.

His unusual priorities have left behind a Turkish tent (splendidly restored), a Gothic folly with astonishing views, a Greek temple, a huge working waterwheel, an elegant (restored) wooden folly and a Chinese bridge that transports the visitor to a grotto made largely of crystals which must once have glittered in candlelight.

The flowerbeds not far from the Greek temple are large, although they do not appear so because of the scale of the surroundings and they tend to be an excellent example of planting for this time of year.

Painshill is the kind of place where it is possible for a family to spend a day without getting bored with woodland walks and good views from plenty of points around the 150 acres.

Disabled visitors can sometimes get a bus ride around certain areas of interest. Some buggies should be available soon.

JANE OWEN

The novelist's creative energy finds an alternative outlet in tending 14 acres

GRAHAM HARRISON

In its different "rooms", Jilly Cooper's garden reflects childhood passions and an instinctive approach to plant buying

Passion blooms in a Cotswolds haven

ME AND MY GARDEN: JILLY COOPER

Draped in grey cashmere, Jilly Cooper reveals her ambition. "Now that I'm 60 I am going to turn into a lady gardener. Composting is going to be my forte," she says.

I have to tell her that this startling wish can never be realised — unless she gains five stone, develops an awesome bosom and a penchant for thornproof-tweed skirts and unusual hats: the blueprint for lady gardeners in one of her books.

Gardens appear throughout her novels, which she writes in a 13th-century, free-standing tower in the middle of her 14-acre garden in the Cotswolds.

"People say that the garden must give me such inspiration for my books, but it never does. When I am in the garden all I can think about is gardening," she says.

Jilly and her publisher husband Leo ("Incapability Cooper" as he describes himself), bought the house (also 13th century) in 1982 and almost immediately felt they had taken on too much.

"I thought I had made a terrible mistake; some areas were so overgrown," she says.

Clearing, tidying and replanting began with the help of two and a half man-hours a week. Hundreds of tons of dead wood were taken out of woodland on the precipitous slope behind the main garden and, with the help of the Forestry Commission, 1,500 broadleaf trees were planted.

The site in Gloucestershire — in the Todsmore valley, or Frogsmoor as it appears in her books — is carved into a south-facing slope of limestone, so the soil is tricky and fast draining. This problem is matched by a strip of heavy clay into which tons of manure of every kind are poured. It is a frost pocket and the wind funnels in from the Bristol Channel.

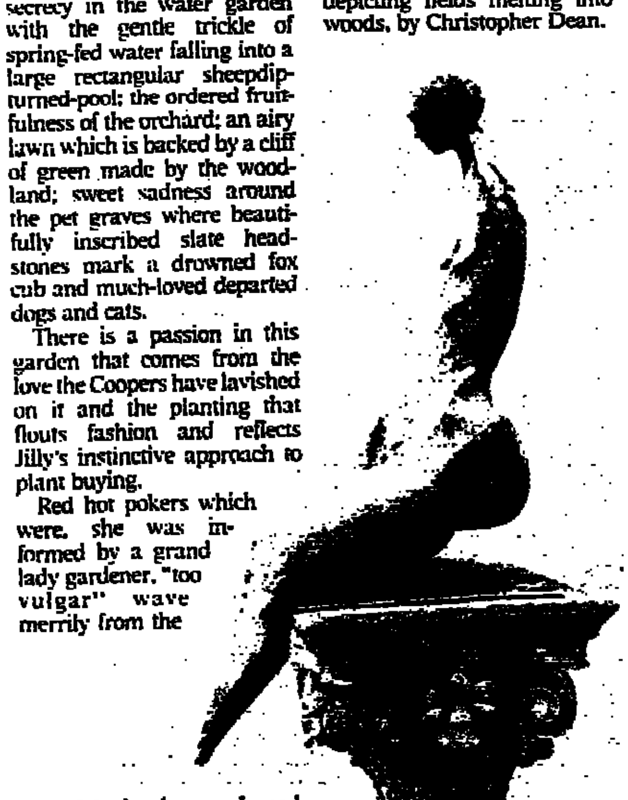
"I spend about four hours a day watering in the summer because the soil drains so fast and there are never any working hoses. That is the Pisces in me," Jilly says.

Each of the garden "rooms" made by the Coopers has a distinct atmosphere: sensuous secrecy in the water garden with the gentle trickle of spring-fed water falling into a large rectangular sheepdip-turned-pool; the ordered fruitfulness of the orchard; an airy lawn which is backed by a cliff of green made by the woodland; sweet sadness around the pet graves where beautifully inscribed slate headstones mark a drowned fox cub and much-loved departed dogs and cats.

There is a passion in this garden that comes from the love the Coopers have lavished on it and the planting that flouts fashion and reflects Jilly's instinctive approach to plant buying.

Red hot pokers which were, she was informed by a grand lady gardener, "too vulgar" wave merrily from the beds in high summer, and some vast spotted laurels ("far too urban") have been left in place along with a poplar planting ("dreadful").

The other element that marks out this garden is the sculpture: a flying pig among some shrubs and, just inside the drive, a totem pole of books and an owl made from dead Scots At the far end of the lawn there are two modern stone pillars and, beyond, a curious piece they call "Mrs Thatche", depicting fields melting into woods, by Christopher Dean.



Fat of the land: pear-shaped figures grace the poolside

Around the pond sit sculptures of pear-shaped women by Anthony Abrahams. And, on the lawn, a chunk of the Houses of thrown out by a vicar's wife who considered the piece too phallic.

Curled beside a terrace wall, two brown-painted, chicken-wire hounds momentarily deceive — they were made by Rupert Till, a school friend of the Cooper's son, Felix. Felix is responsible for the red telephone boxes dotted about the garden. He collects them.

The most innovative — and controversial — piece is by Paul Day and clings to the virtually blank, east-facing wall of the house. It is either the annunciation or the visitation of peace on earth depending on who you want to believe (Mr Cooper insists on the former version, his wife the latter). A great angel swoops down on a group of figures which includes a dog. Dogs, as Jilly Cooper points out, do not appear in the Bible.

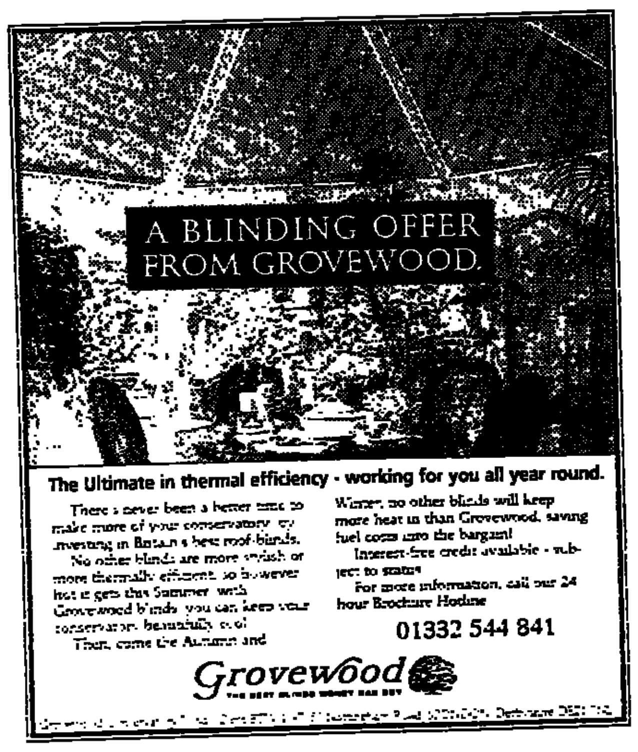
In summer, below this tableau of bronze-coated fibreglass a pale pink "New Dawn" rose mingles with the purple everlasting pea.

Like many inspired gardeners, Jilly's garden memories are childhood. When she was four years old her mother used to cut sprays of double pink cherry blossom from their Yorkshire garden and put them in a Lalique bowl.

Childhood passion for the double pink faded and, for her Cotswold garden, Jilly ordered a couple of elegant white cherry tress. They took a few years to settle in and then they flowered — in a glorious double pink.

JANE OWEN

HOMES & GARDENS



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Putting a beat in the border

A bit of rhythm in your planting stops the garden looking flat, writes

Stephen Anderton

JERRY HARPUR

The Long Border at Great Dixter, running alongside a path, is a symphony of passion and whooping horns orchestrated by Gertrude Jekyll

Making a garden can be curiously like making music. It has its own equivalents of melody, harmony and rhythm, with which gardeners can experiment. Harmony of colour is well understood, and so is a garden's melody — the way the line unfolds through the structure and design of the garden. Rhythm is much trickier, perhaps the hardest quality of the three to introduce.

After all, gardens are usually admired for their dreaminess, their lack of rhythm, the way they stand in a kind of peaceful suspense. It is rare to find much bounce in gardens. Just look at the way background music for garden television programmes is always of the serene, beatless variety. Unless, maybe, it is for some wisecracking modern town garden, full of clever hard landscaping, and more an outdoor living room than somewhere to experiment with plants.

And yet rhythms are there in all gardens, and sometimes they are strong. When a garden needs driving forward between its calmer moments, to move you from A to B, then strong rhythms do the trick. The headlong inevitability of an avenue approach is the perfect example. On a smaller scale, there is rhythm in stepping stones, or the marching uprights of a pergola. When the uprights are in opposite pairs, the rhythm is stongest. Heavy brick pillars will make the heaviest deliberate beat, whereas pairs of clipped mop-headed trees, like the evergreen oaks at Hatfield House, will offer a lighter effect. Pergola supports that are alternate rather than opposite are different again, and swing along from side to side in waltz rhythm.

Structural rhythm like this is easy enough to manage. But even in the serene spaces rhythm is present, and it shows most clearly in the use of colour. The repetition of strong colours can give just as much bounce to the scene as a line of topiary balls.

There is a fine line, however, between giving a big border unity by using the same plant several times, and allowing those plants to recur at regular intervals on the first beat of every bar. But it is better to have those repeats in a border than not to take the risk. Used skilfully, a recurring plant will anchor a border and give it a sense of individuality. Repeated colour need not be in flowers. It could be in grey foliage plants, such as *Phlomis fruticosa*, curry plant, *Salix elaeagnos* and *Stachys lanata*, some making shrubs at the back and others a low pool of herbaceous colour at the front. It could be in the repeating of a fountain of tall silver-green grasses, like varieties of *Miscanthus sinensis*.

The way to avoid the development of these tum-te-tum-te-tum rhythms is to vary the position of a plant or colour within the border. So, for instance, if a border of shrub roses was to be interplanted with a second subject of the tall blue *Campanula lactiflora*, then the campanula might be used not in regular splodges at the back or half-way back, but in several generous, unevenly spaced groups at the back, another somewhere halfway back, and the occasional satellite at the front. The satellites could be either the same tall variety as at the back, or perhaps a lower form such as "Pouffe". You might vary the colour slightly too, using darker named forms such as royal blue "Prichard's Variety" to give highlights in a general planting of the usual pale blues and mauves.

Tall shrubs spaced at regular intervals mark out an even rhythm

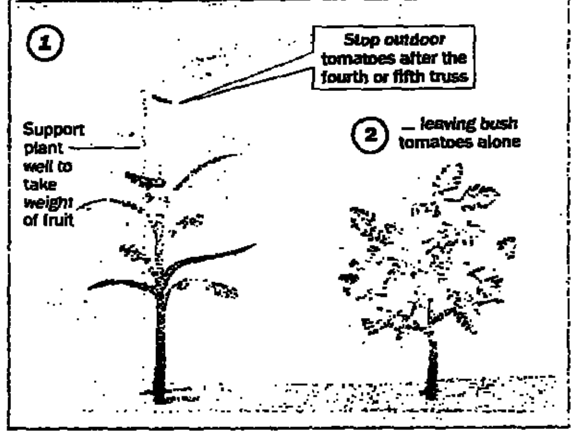
The rhythm of plants in a border depends to a great extent on the angle from which you look at it. If a border is meant to be seen square-on, then any regularly placed repeats will show clearly. It becomes all the more important then to have the various groups in different shapes so that a regular and distracting pattern does not emerge.

On the other hand, if you see a border obliquely, perhaps from a path that runs immediately along the front of it, like the Long Border at Great Dixter in Sussex, then the need for a variety of group shapes is less strong. The picture is only glimpsed as a whole, and the pleasure comes as you walk along its unfolding narrative of contrasts. It makes you focus on the detail of the planting in a more episodic manner. It requires more skill in the planting, but it is probably more satisfying to make: especially if the border is deep, because then as much thought has to go into the front-to-back relationships as goes into the side-to-side relationships.

Gertrude Jekyll, the abiding mistress of modern colour theory, liked borders to flow from pale colours through hot to cool again. Her eyesight was poor, and she was more interested in the general flow, the sequence of harmonies, than she was in rhythm. She recommended planting in long strips running the length of the border. Today her fixation on this linear approach seems obsessive, but you can imagine how this interweaving of long shapes could produce a border in which the changing harmony of colour was quite uninterrrupted by the beat of a rhythm. The perfect Jekyll border is probably like Samuel Barber's flowing *Adagio for Strings*. The Long Border is more Strauss and *Till Eulenspiegel*, all passion and whooping horns.

- Stop outdoor tomatoes after the fourth or fifth truss has set, but leave bush tomatoes alone. Ensure both are well supported to take the weight of fruit.
- Yew and holly hedges clipped now should survive on one clipping a year, although a wet autumn may produce some further shoots.
- Clumps of colchicum bulbs may be lifted and divided now. Replant individually, because they soon clump up again; even small bulbs flower quickly when given space of their own. Crown imperials (*Fritillaria imperialis*) can be planted now.
- Complete any weedkilling on lawns this month so long as the soil is moist, and before the weather cools down and selective herbicides become less effective.
- The widest choice of tulips is starting to be available in garden centres. Buy now, but keep cool and plant them any time up to December, as space becomes available. Most other bulbs are better planted straight away.
- Evergreen trees and shrubs can be moved over the next month. Soak the roots first, a day or two in advance, and move on a still, dull day. Plant evergreen hedges in well prepared trenches.
- Prune out the flowered stems of loganberries and tie the new ones in place for next year. Space evenly to receive maximum ripening sun.
- Take cuttings of plants in terrace pots too large to bring indoors for next season — for example, argyranthemum, pelargonium and tender salvias.
- Ensure trailing plants bearing edible fruits, such as melons and kiwi fruit, are kept well fertilised and watered.
- Water sweetcorn and irrigate consistently. When the tassle at the end of the cob begins to look brown and withered, pick the cob and eat it as soon as possible, while it is still fresh.
- Sow lettuce seeds of the large-headed variety to eat in December. Thin seedlings and cover when colder climates prevail.
- Take cuttings of herbs, such as sage and savory, and root in well shaded trays either inside greenhouses or outside under frames. Once rerooted, replant in individual pots and shelter until placing outside in spring.

TIPS ON GROWING TOMATOES


①
Stop outdoor tomatoes after the fourth or fifth truss
Support plant well to take weight of fruit
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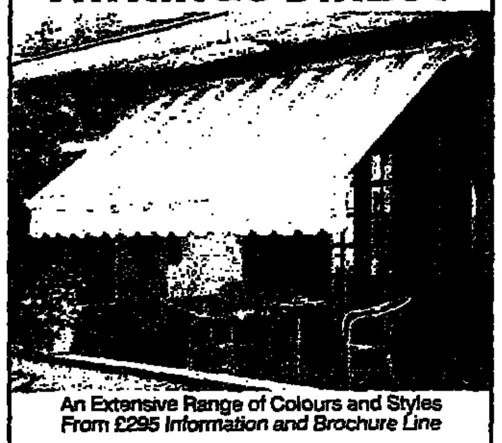
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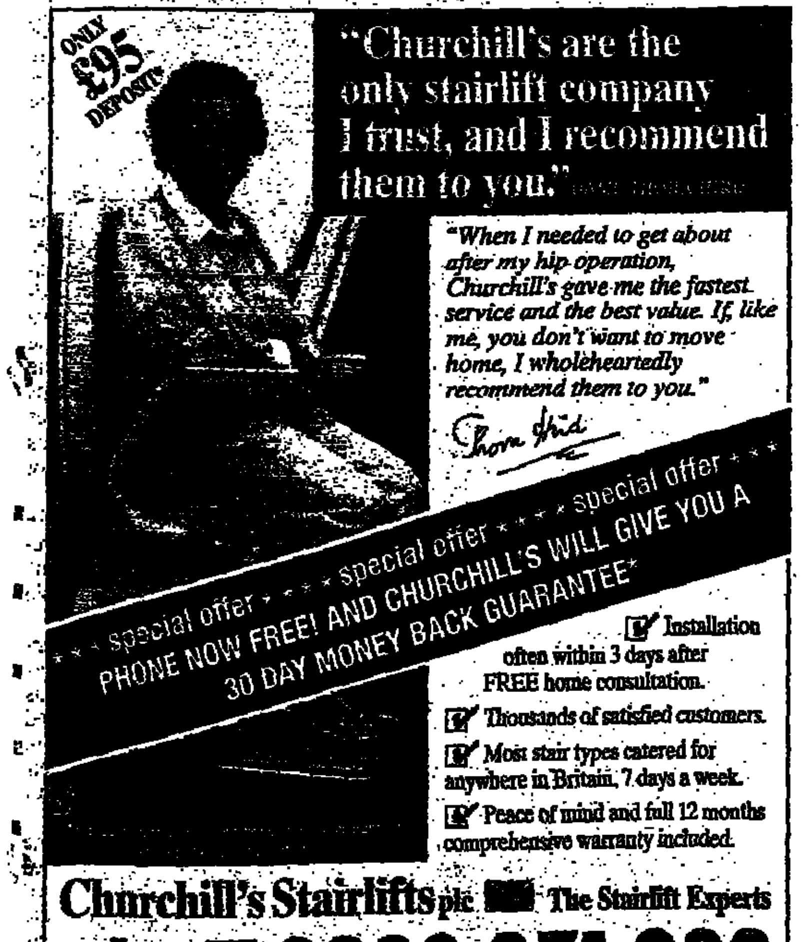
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هكذا من الأصل

Jane Owen's new greenhouse was a DIY job – except that it needed Jean, Peter, Harry, Paul, Alan, David and Keith to help put it up

Jane Owen sets about trying to erect her greenhouse, but gets into a bit of a tangle and enlists the help of Paul Fievez, the photographer, and David Page of the manufacturers — along with five other men

Magnificent Seven drama

Open five flatpacks containing kit for the Marlborough 6 shatterproof polypropelene greenhouse: sheets of double thickness glazing, coil of black rubber, aluminium struts, steel beams, white plastic strips, cruciform head bolts, clips, nuts, wheels and a spanner. Repack everything and have a stiff drink. Open assembly manual. It is in five languages: English, German, French, Dutch and Engineering.

Pour another drink and ring Jean, a French engineer friend with large tool kit. He has a date in Dunkerque and refuses to help. I say I have a bottle of Châteauneuf du Pape Vieux Télégraphe 1987. He agrees to come for the weekend. No need, I say, this will only take a day according to those who have done it before, so long as we get the foundations absolutely level and the angles exact. Long argument. Apparently French engineers don't do foundations. Jean arrives in rainstorm.

Assembly of base begins in the hall. This is simple: bolting four steel beams together and four legs which eventually plug into foundations. Now have to master assembly of screwing and sliding bolts so that they perform about three functions at once. Jean is told he will get neither wine nor supper until we have built the side walls. He claims exhaustion and that, without wine, he cannot identify which piece is which. Bottle is opened and side wall is assembled — with wrong pieces and the bottom sills facing the wrong way.

Tempers are now frayed and (correct) pieces laid out in kitchen for assembly in the morning. Children, cats, orphan lambs and visitors have to pick their way across the muddle.

Assemble side and end walls in the morning with a little help from visiting a solicitor. Peter, whose usual job is to sue journalists. I ask him to make sense of the instructions but he can't and offers to do the barbecue/read the paper for me/clean out the latrines... anything rather than greenhouse torture. Jean finally emerges, hungover, and interprets instructions in French. Roof panels assembled.

Picture editor rings from *The Times* Weekend section. Holly wants a series of pictures showing each stage of the building process. Could I dismantle a couple of parts to show the stages? Dream on, Buster. "Oh, Holly," I say, "that's a good idea. The pictures might not come out exactly like that — things haven't gone exactly to plan. But I look forward to seeing the 'snapper' there."

Panic. It is six weeks since this malarkey began and the snapper is due on Saturday. Jean agrees to return after I mention a meal of roast duck with *crème brûlée* and Baron Philippe de Rothschild Pauillac 1994.

Frame erected. Instructions say this can be achieved by one person. Pah!

Glazing. Why is one side covered in clear film and another in deep-blue film? Rip off both films. Jean stands inside greenhouse sweating and cursing in French. I climb ladder and wham glazing in from outside using a sparkplug gauge (hot tip) to help ease each sheet into its allotted slot. Find note at bottom of glazing pack saying that the side of the glazing sheets covered in blue film should face the outside.

Snapper due in two hours and we should have built the door. Jean says he will withdraw his labour unless we have lunch and he can watch cricket. Tell him to eat one of the lettuces and some sugar snap peas from the vegetable plot.

Order Jean inside greenhouse again to hold frame while I fit PVC capping and hammer it in place with the rubber mallet. Whole greenhouse jumps off stand every time I whack the capping in place. French vocabulary is extending. Once one piece is in place it pops out when I whack the next one. Also, all roof glazing panels begin to edge out. Glazing clips, that have broken most of my nails during installation, popping out across vegetable plot.

Snapper due in an hour. Discover a loose piece of paper saying that the instructions for the base in the booklet should be ignored in favour of alternative instructions about clipping greenhouse to base. At least foundations are perfect: Harry, who helps me in the garden, has a gimlet eye for getting things right.

Paul Fievez, the snapper, arrives while Jean is failing to make a screw self-tap. I am questioning his credentials as an engineer. He waffles about the difference between a mechanic and an engineer. Paul puts down cameras, picks up screwdriver and says he's erected four greenhouses and that self-tapping screws never work. Have to buy extra-high-specification screws and drill out the holes into which they were supposed to slot, he says. Keep on like that, says Paul looking at Jean who is adding Fairy Liquid to help the self-tapping process, and the screw heads will sheer off.

Alan, my neighbour, arrives with drill to drill out the holes for the allegedly self-tapping screws, offers to get self-tapping kit from workshop and then withdraws. Remaining boys disintegrate into a heap on the lawn to discuss sprocket retainer bolts.

PAUL FIEVEZ

Jane Owen, triumphant, at the door (well, where the door will be once it has been put together) of her greenhouse

Decide to get lardy cake and tea, followed shortly by wine.

After two-hour struggle Paul has limited success with the door, takes some pictures and vanishes to take pictures of John Major in a pub.

Monday. Ring the makers of the Marlborough 6. David Page and Keith Mercer arrive from the company and finish the job. Both are realistic about the Marlborough 6: it is a brilliant construction (safer and probably more heat effective than glass) but it is new and it has had teething problems and so their new, updated model (on sale from October) will have ironed out the problems with which I battled. Great.

● *The Marlborough 6 costs from £249. Base £45 extra. For stockists, call Freephone 01536 206900, Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm.*

GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON

replies to readers' letters

Q What do you recommend to shelter my garden from traffic noise? — Miss E.M. Wood, Headington, Oxfordshire.

A The fastest, crudest and most work in the long-term would be a leylandii cypress hedge, but salt slush sprayed up from wheels in winter can easily "burn" them. Go for a fast effect of trellis covered in ivy, behind which you could grow a mixed shrubbery of deciduous and evergreen shrubs. Shiny-leafed evergreens withstand pollution better because they are cleaned more efficiently by rain. Try laurels, evergreen oak, garrya, elaeagnus, euonymus, holly, arbutus, berberis, escallonia, camellia, fatsia or the tall, elegant Chinese privet *Ligustrum lucidum*. Deciduous trees and shrubs tolerating pollution include robinia, ailanthus, lime, ash, laburnum, rhus, hydrangea and forsythia.

Q When I pruned my bougainvillea in February I repotted it into too large a pot, since when it has grown well but not flowered. Could I repot it again in November, and root prune it and shorten the sideshoots to make it fit a smaller pot? Then hard prune again in February? — Mrs G. Pinchin, Chichester, West Sussex.

A That sounds fine. Bougainvilleas will withstand a lot of root pruning, but you could leave doing it until February, especially if you are going to rest the plant in relative inactivity through the winter. Bougainvilleas prefer to be tightly potted and need repotting only every two to three years. When it is done, however, they need a rich soil around their roots; they are hungry plants. Under normal circumstances root pruning is unnecessary.

Q Can areas of soil with clubroot be cleansed? — R. Dickens, Guisborough, Cleveland.

A Hygiene and prevention are the best and the only real cure for clubroot, a fungal disease seen as galls on the roots, and causing weak and damaged foliage above. Make sure you rotate the areas in which you grow brassicas (cabbages, swedes, turnips and radishes) and, if there is nowhere clean, avoid these crops for a few years. The disease can, however, linger in the soil for as long as 20 years. Make sure the soil is neutral (pH7) or slightly alkaline by adding lime as necessary, and ensure good drainage.

● *Readers should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. We regret that that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times also regrets that any enclosures cannot be returned.*

EXCLUSIVE TIMES OFFER THE TIMES

Modern scented pinks at half normal price

Readers are offered this specially selected collection of *Dianthus x allwoodii*, otherwise known as modern pinks. This particular hybrid originates from crossing the old-fashioned pink with the perpetual flowering carnation retaining the lovely clove-scented blooms from the pinks and having the sturdiness of the carnation. They are faster growing and produce far more blooms than the usual variety, particularly during June to August, then sometimes flowering again in September and October. Completely winter-hardy, they reward you with delightful cut flowers year after year. Each plant grows to a height of approximately 15in.

The four varieties we have on offer are **Doris** - pink, **Haytor** - white, **Joy** - salmon and **Dennis** - red. Each pack has six plants which are ready to be put into your garden immediately, and cost £5.99 per pack. Alternatively, treat yourself to one pack of each variety for only £11.98 inc. p&p - giving you 24 plants at half the normal price.

The Times Modern scented pinks Offer

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) ____

Address ____

Postcode ____

	CODE	PLEASE SEND ME:	QTY	£ITEM	TOTALS
A	7266	Doris - pink		£5.99	
B	7267	Haytor - white		£5.99	
C	7269	Joy - salmon		£5.99	
D	7268	Dennis - red		£5.99	
E	7264	One pack of each variety		£11.98	

Price includes postage and packing *TOTAL COST* ☐

I enclose a cheque/postal order(s) made payable to *The Times Modern scented pinks Offer FT673.*

Value ____ No. ____

Please write name and address on back of all cheques.

Or debit my Access/Visa card number:

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Print Name ____ Expiry Date ____

Signature ____ Date ____

Send coupon and remittance to: THE TIMES MODERN SCENTED PINKS, FT673, PO Box 8, Spalding, Lincs, PE12 6BB.
Allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. Offer available in UK only. If dissatisfied please return goods within seven days of receipt for full refund. No claims for loss in transit can be made after 30 days. The Times cannot be held responsible for returned goods lost in transit. Offer subject to availability. You may be sent further information on offers and services which may be of interest to you. If you do not wish to participate please tick box ☐

FOR ORDERS PLEASE TELEPHONE 01775 710000 (24-HOURS)

Don't fork out for the wrong spade

Stephen Anderton helps choose the best gardening tools for the job – some from the local market stall

Down at the market on a Saturday morning there's a stall selling old tools — wooden planes, chisels, edging shears, garden forks and the like. I stop and look. It's tempting. Then I think, how many tools do I really need? When it comes down to it, very few.

A good spade is the first necessity. If you are on light soil, one with a full-length blade is efficient and fast. On sticky clay soils, a spade with a shorter blade is better: a spade which time and hard work have worn down to two thirds its original length. And I like a spade with those little bits of steel welded to the top of the blade to protect my instep.

Who needs stainless steel? Not me: you have to scrape it clean as you work just as much as with ordinary steel. What matters in a spade is that the metal comes far enough up the shaft to make it strong, and that the balance and the T or D handle is to your liking.

My additional luxury in the digging department is a drainage spade — a "spit" — with an 18in semi-circular tapering blade which is useful for taking out compacted soil or breaking up flinty clay in a deep planting hole.

A digging fork is another necessity. Just a good ordinary one. The fancier a tool, the sillier it usually is. If you try hard enough, you can bend or break any fork or spade, so I like to spend a sensible minimum on them and get a basic, strong brand such as Bulldog.

Hoes are different. I have a passion wrought of experience for that strange, swan-necked hoe produced by Wilkinson Sword, which it calls a Swoe. It is the Bang and Olufsen of garden tools and, like a B&O hi-fi, it's good but a bit designery. The blade is connected to the shaft only at one side, which allows you to slalom around among the plants, cutting just as efficiently on pull as on push.

BRUCE COLEMAN

You need fewer tools for the garden than you might think

Trowels and hand forks must be made of forged steel to last. If you are on soil with the texture of chocolate soufflé, those pressed-out versions will do, but on spotted-dick clay they must be forged, with a blade which will not bend. Bulldog and Wilkinson are both excellent.

A wire leaf rake is essential in the flower garden, just as a flat Dutch rake is indispensible in the vegetable patch. The different kinds of rakes are legion. There are rakes with detachable heads, rakes with subtley curved and coiffured tines, and wooden grass rakes of biblical proportions. The most multipurpose of these is a cheap, simple wire rake such as the Bulldog Springbok.

For removing thin layers of leaves on grass you might prefer the Mikko polycarbonate rake, which is amazingly light and strong, and refuses to clog with leaves.

Everyone needs hand shears. And it is worth getting a a pair with a chopping notch at the back of the blade to save you switching to secateurs when you hit a hefty shoot.

Because everyone wants shears, you rarely see a decent pair on a market stall. The relatives have had them before the shed is cleared. Sometimes they are huge and strong, but ten times heavier than modern shears. Sometimes the hinge bolt is worn and you need to scissor away in mid-air to see if they become slack every ten flexes. A new bolt, washer and locknut may solve that.

The local market is the ideal place to buy a pick, and a big hammer for putting in stakes. The shafts may sometimes be dried out and brittle, but you can always replace them.

A saw is also a must. The most multipurpose of saws is the 21in bow saw with a pointed end to let you get into tight corners. Sandvik makes some excellent saws and replacement blades; shears too.

Spend as much as you can on a pair of secateurs. Try Felco, if you can afford them. No gadgets, just good, high-quality steel and an adustable hinge. Simpler still are the Burgon and Ball Classic Garden Shears, which are in effect up-market sheep shears.

They are perfect for snipping away at topiary one handed, and dead-heading. But I hesitate to use them in jobs where I hold in the left hand that which I want to cut off with the right. The blades are long and very sharp, and I am a fast worker — but I need all my fingers to write this column.

BASIC TOOL SET

A BASIC SET of multi-purpose hand tools for the garden should comprise the following. There is a much greater variation of quality in tools with sharp blades and moving parts. Pay a price at the top of the range only if you are sure the quality is high.

Digging spade with instep protectors	£17-£25
Digging fork	£12-£20
Wire Rake	£15
Swoe	£20
Trowel	£10
Hand fork	£10
Hand shears	£15-£25
Secateurs	£20-£30
Bow saw (21in)	£15
TOTAL	£134-£170

● Burgon and Ball Classic Garden Shears are available from some garden centres, about £15.99, or by mail order (£1.95 p&p) from Burgon and Ball, La Plata Works, Holme Lane, Sheffield S6 4JY.

● The light, cheap Mikko polycarbonate leaf rake is available only by mail order (£6, incl. p&p) from Better Methods, Brantwood House, Kimberley Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BH14 8QS.

هدية من الأصل

Atop a listed building in Wandsworth, a former pop group manager has created an airy reminder of his West Coast days

Living the high life: John Hade with partner Krys Nowak and her daughter Zosia in the treetop living room that leads on to a sunny terrace

DES JENSON

The house designed by T.E. Colcutt, architect of the Savoy hotel and Palace Theatre

California dreaming in a Gothic eyrie

The dining room has a Victorian fireplace and colour-washed walls that echo the terracotta of the kitchen tiles

The Victorian architect T.E. Colcutt was no *doubt* revolving *in his* grave at the vision of a dormer window sprouting like a *carbuncle from the roof* of his five-storey mansion. Blame the Thompson Twins, or rather their former manager, John Hade, who was too busy masterminding the pop group's American chart success and tours to bother about the minutiae of planning regulations back home in Wandsworth, London.

The planners were rightly apoplectic when they discovered that a builder hired by Hade had erected the monstrosity without permission. The dormer, they told Hade *sternly, had to go* because *it* marred the elegant lines of the Grade II listed house, built in 1879, *in* Nightingale Lane, southwest London.

Hade, 49, former manager of the cult synthesizer group (whose 1980s fame peaked with *Hold Me Now*, *Doctor Doctor* and *You Take Me Up*), bought the lease of the top two-storey flat in 1984. Because of the band's popularity in America, he commuted between Los *Angeles and London*, leaving ambitious plans for his flat in the hands of a designer-*builder*.

"It was a case of no expense spared in those heady days," says Hade *nostalgically*. "I gave him a free rein and when he promised me he'd applied for and received planning permission for the window, I believed him."

The whistle was blown by a neighbour who, peeved at being refused permission for a similar dormer, insisted that the council should also give *him the go-ahead to build one* "just like the chap's next door".

Hade says: "When the planning official took me down the bottom of the garden and showed me what the dormer looked like from there, I had no argument with him: It looked horrific.

"At the back of the building, all the lines are vertical and everything *is taller* than it is wide. But that dormer was 12ft wide and 6ft high. I immediately agreed it had to be ripped out. It had already cost me £4,000, and now I had to *spend* another £6,000 on removing it and replacing it with an inverted dormer, whose width was defined to the last millimetre."

But he *is* delighted with the result: a sunny, south-facing terrace, with views over the plane trees to Crystal Palace, the twin towers of Ikea's Croydon store, and the South *Downs* in the *distance. On a* clear day you can see for ever, or so it seems from this peaceful Gothic *eyrie* that is soundproofed against the incessant traffic trundling past its front.

"If you step out on to this *balcony*, it's three-quarters of the way to having a garden," says Hade who, as a Friend of Kew, bids for exotic plant cuttings at the Royal Botanic Gardens' annual auction. *"There's even room to* have a dining table out here among the jasmine, honeysuckle and Virginia creeper. It's like having a top-floor patio."

As other flat-dwellers swelter in the summer heatwave, Hade, his partner Krys Nowak, *her nine-year-old daughter* Zosia and four cats enjoy the treetop living room, with *its high ceilings, exposed pine* beams and forest of weeping fig, rubber and cheese plants.

"When I look up at a cloudless blue sky through the skylight in the dusty pink ceiling, it reminds me of California. I thought I'd made a *terrible mistake with the* wall colours at first. They looked like candy-floss pink until the plants and furniture and Indian wall hangings were in place," says Hade.

He also had a near-disaster with the ash floor. "I had it varnished and the next morn*ing I came up to admire it*, only to find the whole floor was lilac. Apparently it was a faulty batch *of varnish, but at* least the company paid for the floor to be redone."

The 23ft by 16ft reception room is dominated by a mas*sive baronial fireplace, whose* design Hade sketched on a beer mat. He says: "I come from a working-class background, so when I visited friends' six-bedroomed houses with their huge inglenook fireplace I said to myself, 'one day I'm going to have one'. It has *Christmas* and *Dickens* written all over it."

Hade, who left the pop world to write and make furniture, wants a change of scene: a ten-acre farm in Devon and a hand-made furniture business. "I want a *stress-free life*," he says.

So it's goodbye to the Wandsworth flat: its open *kitchen with terracotta tiles*, their colour echoed in the washed walls of the adjoining *dining room, with black quar*ry-style tiles, pretty magnolia-tiled Victorian fireplace and narrow balcony. Also on this first level are the main and second bedrooms, a black-and-white marble bathroom with sunken whirlpool bath *and closet shower*. Nowak, an upholsterer, has hand-painted the windows of the bathroom and separate lavatory with a green and yellow leaf pattern.

On the second level is a third bedroom, a small study and the airy reception room with *its approved roof terrace. At* least Colcutt, architect of the Savoy Hotel and the Palace Theatre, can rest in peace.

GILL MARTIN

● *Agents: Douglas & Gordon (0181-673 0191).*

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

● Flat D, 75 Nightingale Lane, Wandsworth, London SW12.

● **Price:** £275,000 leasehold.

● **Travel:** Clapham Common Tube, eight minutes' walk.

● **Shopping:** Safeway and Sainsbury's, two minutes' drive; King's Road, Chelsea, 15 *minutes' drive*.

● **Entertainment:** Jongleurs Comedy Club and fringe theatre *in nearby Battersea*.

● **Schools:** private school; Roman Catholic state school; two primary schools.

● **Parking:** unrestricted.

PROPERTY PROFILE: OXFORDSHIRE

ATTRACTIONS: Oxford's dreaming spires are not the county's sole boast. Woodstock and Blenheim Palace, home to a succession of Dukes of Marlborough, are attractions in their own right; as are the fabled Vale of the White *Horse*, where St George is said to have slain his dragon, and Uffington Castle. Most buyers are looking for village property, particularly *around Boars Hill, near Oxford, and further* afield, in villages like the Baldons, Tirrolds and Stanton St John. Much of the county is solid commuter belt, with regular trains into Paddington, as well as the M40 and A34.

THE MARKET: Prices have risen by 20 to 25 per cent over the past year, according to *Cluttons in Oxford. Despite the August lull*, many buyers are out in force, with demand far exceeding supply. The three Cotswold offices *of Jackson-Stops & Staff have 2,000 applicants* for 40 properties, half of which are under offer. Clegg Kennedy Drew in Charlbury says the *top end of the market has been "buzzing" for 12* months, with many would-be buyers looking to rent until they can find the right property. They reckon around 50 per cent of buyers are from London. Prices fell by 15 per cent to 20 per cent from 1989 to Autumn of 1993, according to John D. Wood & Co in Oxford. Hamptons International in Henley on Thames reckon demand has increased sharply since 1996.

EXPECT TO PAY: Between £160,000 to £220,000 for a three-bedroom cottage, from *£400,000 to £650,000 for a farmhouse with* land, and from £500,000 to £1 million for a manor house in five acres, says Cluttons. Properties between Oxford, Chipping Norton and Burford can command 15 per cent premiums, say Jackson-Stops in *Burford*.

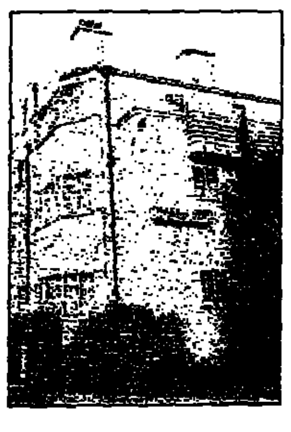
SIGNIFICANT SALES: Walcot Manor, near *Charlbury, was sold in four weeks by Cluttons* earlier this year. Lot 1, a country house with ten acres went for £695,000; lot 2, a pair of cottages, *went for £125,000 and* £130,000 each.

OUTLOOK: Supply will increase, according to *Hamptons International*, but will not meet demand. Jackson-Stops says the market is calming down after a period of intense activity.

● *Next week: Surrey*

CELEBRITY NEIGHBOURS IN CLAPHAM

IAN HISLOP, *editor of Private Eye*, lives with his wife Victoria and two children in a Victorian terrace, less than five minutes walk from Wandsworth Common. The house is close to the many restaurants and shops on Bellevue Road. Neighbouring houses are currently fetching as much as £800,000.



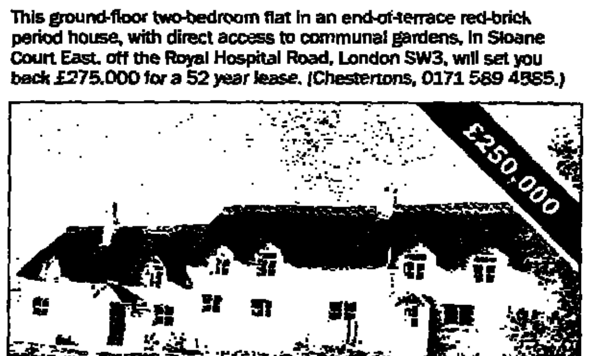
VIVIENNE WESTWOOD, fashion designer, shares the home she has lived in for *over 20 years with her* husband Andreas Kronthaler. The two-bedroom flat is part of a *1930s former* council block in Clapham and is ideally situated for *Westwood to be able to cycle* to and from her Battersea-based head office.

SUSANNAH YORK, *the* actress, lives in a five-bedroomed Victorian house. *One of a line of identical* houses, it has a secluded garden, four times the size of *her neighbours, and incor*porates an orchard, lawns and a line of poplars. The *interior has survived child*ren and animals and is lived in but warm.

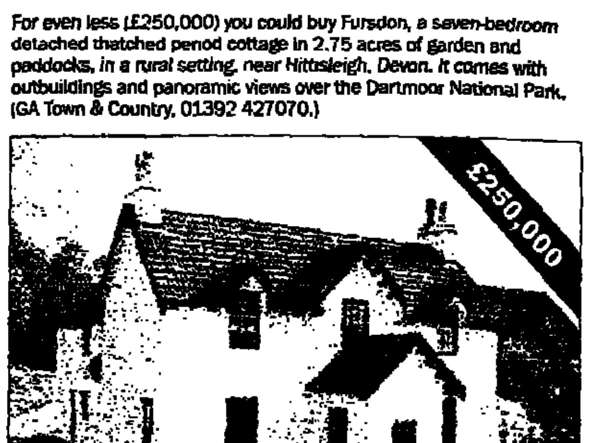
HOMESWAP

What the same money will buy around the country

This ground-floor two-bedroom flat in an end-of-terrace red-brick period house, with direct access to communal gardens, in Sloane Court East, off the Royal Hospital Road, London SW3, will set you back £275,000 for a *52 year lease*. (Chestertons, 0171 589 4585.)



For even less (£250,000) you could buy Fursdon, a seven-bedroom detached thatched period cottage in 2.75 acres of garden and paddocks, *in a rural setting, near Hittisleigh, Devon. It comes with* outbuildings and panoramic views over the Dartmoor National Park. (GA Town & Country, 01392 427070.)



In Scotland, *£250,000 will buy you* Ardshealach Lodge, a refurbished eight-bedroom Victorian highland sporting lodge in 22 acres of woodland and rough grazing, fronting Loch Shiel, near Acharacle, Argyll. The price includes a two-bedroom converted byre and the right to fish for salmon and sea trout from a boat. (Savills, 0131 226 6961.)

CHERYL TAYLOR

هكذا من الاصل

PETER TREVNOR

The Phipps swapped their flat at market value for a new, two-bedroom, two-bathroom Barratt house

Trading places made easy

Some builders will take your old home in part exchange for a new one, saving the bother of selling, writes **Cheryl Taylor**

When the housing market seems rife with horror stories of forbidding prices, property deserts, broken house-chains and gazumping, many people, particularly those who are having trouble selling or need to move fast, are finding a solution to their problems in a little-advertised sector of the market — part-exchange.

By trading in your old home for a new one, you can escape estate agents' fees and the hassle of selling. Some builders also offer cash incentives to pay for legal and survey fees and help with arranging a mortgage. And the whole transaction can take a week or less to complete. However, many builders are reluctant to advertise a scheme that was introduced when the market was depressed in the 1970s, but which in a booming market would seem to hold more advantages for the customer than the builder.

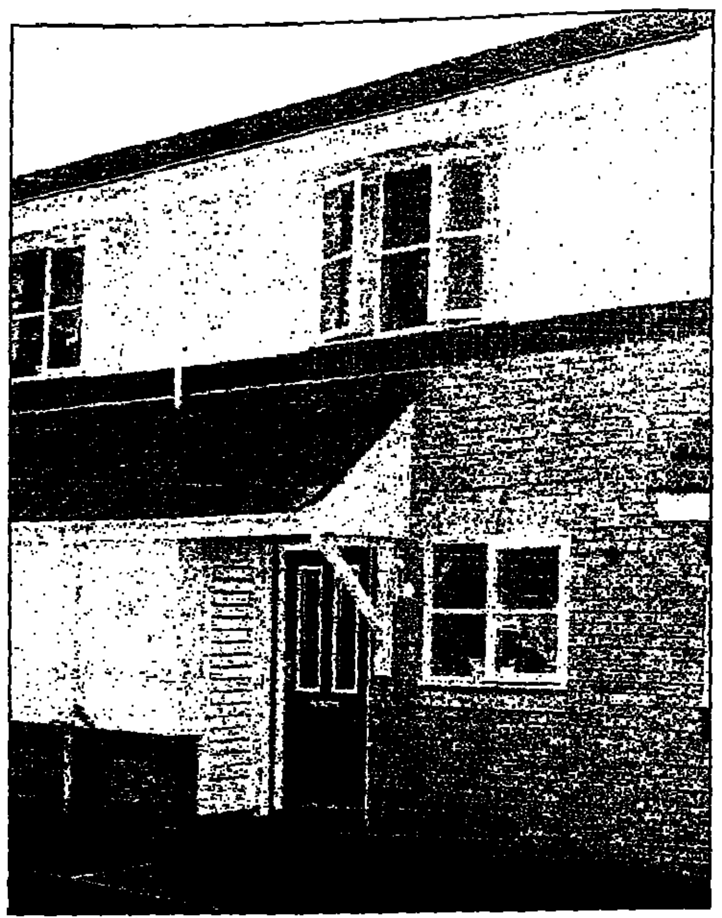
Part-exchange deals generate a second, spin-off market in old homes that have been traded in. While most building companies pass on the older homes they acquire to local building societies to re-sell, Barratt, who pioneered the part-exchange concept in the 1970s, buys and re-sells 3,000 properties a year through its own showrooms. "In that sense we are one of the biggest estate agents in Britain," says David Pretty, chairman of Barratt Southern.

When trading old for new, most builders insist that buyers trade up to a house or flat worth at least 30 per cent more than their old home. As a general rule, the builder agrees to a price based on two or three independent valuations, though it is worth remembering that these may well be lower than prices achieved on the open market.

A few builders pay 100 per cent of the valuation; others will knock off between 5 and 10 per cent to cover resale costs. The builder may claim that your property was not priced to sell or in poor condition and offer a lower price, in which case you could end up with a low price for your own house and pay over the odds for a new one. So always insist on having your own valuation carried out by a chartered surveyor.

Wimpey and Fairview have part-exchange schemes on selected sites and both offer 100 per cent of an independent valuation, as does Barratt, which also offers £500 towards legal and survey fees on selected properties, and second-buyer discounts for those who trade up from a Barratt home. Buyers who purchase a new house off-plan from Cala Homes are given a guaranteed part-exchange price of 100% of an agreed valuation, if they cannot sell their existing property on the open market before their new home is ready.

Berkeley Homes offers an underwriting scheme to minimise risks for those buying from plan. "We underwrite about 10 per cent of our business," says Paul Vallone, group sales and marketing director. "It enables people to move regardless of market conditions and diminishes stress for the purchaser." Berkeley will buy your existing home for 90 per cent of the mid-valuation from three estate agents, provided the property you are buying is worth 35 per cent more.



Clarendon Gate, the new development near Woodham, Surrey

McCarthy & Stone, Britain's biggest sheltered housing group, also has a part-exchange scheme that accounts for a third of all sales. It is aimed at retired people who want to trade down (or up, or across) to a purpose-built retirement home, but are daunted by the prospect of upheaval. The company will buy an existing home, based on independent valuations, but will knock off an unspecified sum to cover its costs.

Barratts sells on many of the older houses and flats it gains through part-exchange under the label Oak Leaf Properties. These are available to buyers with many of the benefits usually only available on new homes. The properties will have been redecorated, repairs carried out and carpets laid, at no extra charge. You can even part-exchange your existing home — at up to 100 per cent of an independent valuation — for one of these older homes, and Barratt will take care of legal and survey costs up to £500 on selected Oak Leaf properties. Older homes are available in a choice of locations at prices from £32,000 for a one-bedroom flat in Tyneside to £200,000 for a detached house in Kent.

"These homes are always priced to sell and represent excellent value for money," says Mr Pretty.

● Barratt Homes, 0345 626364; Wimpey Homes 0181 748 2000; Cala Homes, 01784 460033; Berkeley Homes: 01959 561499; McCarthy & Stone, 01202 292480.

A FAMILY OF FAST MOVERS

NICK PHIPPS, a former British bobsleigh champion, is used to things moving fast, so when he and his wife Harriet were still struggling to sell their old flat more than a year after it went on the market, they began to wonder if they would ever find a new home for their two young children, Jack, two, and ten-month-old Olivia.

The Phipps family had been living in a small flat in a converted building in Woodham, Surrey, for two years and put it up for sale when it became impractical for children. During the months it was on the market a promising sale fell through, adding to their misery. Then they discovered a new Barratt development, Clarendon Gate, a development of 69 houses built on the site of the old Ottershaw hospital, a short distance away from their former home at Woodham.

They put down a deposit on a two-bedroom, terraced house and Barratt bought their home for its full market value. "Barratt paid us £79,950 for our old flat, which was the middle valuation from three esate agents, and we didn't have to pay agent's fees," says Mrs Phipps, a sports consultant.

Their brand new £99,000 house has two bedrooms, one with an en suite bathroom in addition to the family bathroom, a lounge/dining room, fully fitted kitchen and a downstairs cloakroom.x

CHERYL TAYLOR

THE GUILD OF PROFESSIONAL ESTATE AGENTS

Henshaws
EAST HORSLEY, SURREY £475,000
A fascinating house built by Lord Lovelace in 1874, 2 detached guest cottages within the grounds: 3 bedrooms, en suite bathroom, beamed reception area.
[illegible]

The Jenkins Newman Partnership
GT KINGSHILL, BUCKS OIRO £340,000
A delightful brick and flint cottage thought to date back approx 200 years, boasting characterful accom: 4 beds, impressive lounge with inglenook, superb garden.
[illegible]

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS C. £600,000
Extensive country home, on a level plot, surrounded by acres of farmland, offering anonymity in a picturesque setting
Trend & Thomas 4 Queens Parade, High Street, Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 1EE T: 01923 773616

FLACKWELL HEATH, BUCKS £420,000
A substantial 5 bedroom, 3 bathroom home of quality situated in a desirable location overlooking Flackwell Heath Golf Course. Close to J3 M40.
Woodman & Partners, Acorn House, 12 Straight Bit, Flackwell Heath, Bucks HP10 9LS T: 01628 851300

HOOK HEATH, WOKING £545,000
An immaculately presented detached house set in a little over half an acre of superbly maintained grounds in the heart of Hook Heath.
Waterfall Durrant & Barclay, 44 Commercial Way, Woking, Surrey GU21 1HW T: 01483 773773

HASTINGWOOD, ESSEX OIRO £1,000,000
Elegant mid 19th century house standing in about 21 acres with outdoor equestrian facilities. House plus cottage, formal gardens, swimming pool, outbuildings.
[illegible]

BARTON ON SEA, HAMPSHIRE £159,950
A most attractive and extremely well presented cottage style bungalow, standing in superb gardens in a prime residential location, near Milton and Barton on Sea.
[illegible]

UPPER COLWYN BAY, WALES £450,000
Undoubtedly one of the finest properties in the North Wales area, commanding breathtaking views to the Conwy Mountains with Anglesey in the distance.
Sterling Estate Agents 33 Conway Road, Colwyn Bay, North Wales LL29 7AA T: 01492 534477.

Sims Williams
ALDINGBOURNE, SUSSEX £159,950
Period property with extensive rural views situated in a popular quiet location with parking, 2 bedrooms, 2 receptions, secluded pretty garden.
Sims Williams 8 Southgate, Chichester, Sussex PO19 1ES T: 01243 787868 F: 01243 531255

HELSBY, CHESHIRE £205,000
Superb executive residence providing exceptional family accommodation. Occupying an enviable elevated fringe village position.
Allsops 105 Norley Road, Cuddington, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 2LE T: 01606 882869 F: 01606 889414

Pritchard
SOMERSET, NR BATH GUIDE £275,000
An attractive detached period style property, quietly located 14 miles from Bath and set in extensive private grounds extending to 4 acres.
Pritchard & Partners 11 Quiet Street, Bath BA1 2LB T: 01225 466225 F: 01225 445737

Pritchard
BATH GUIDE £385,000
A substantial double fronted Georgian town house situated in a convenient position in the heart of the village. The property has accom arranged over 4 floors.
Pritchard & Partners 11 Quiet Street, Bath BA1 2LB T: 01225 466225 F: 01225 445737

Pritchard
CATHERINE PLACE GUIDE £390,000
A completely luxury Georgian town house overlooking the Square and adjacent to the Royal Crescent. Accom arranged on 5 floors in excellent order throughout.
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SOMERSET - AUCTION 5 SEP 1997
A Grade II Listed hamstone farmhouse in a village situation with gardens and orchard together with a range of traditional farm buildings with PP for conversion.
TRG Lawrence Estate Agents 20 Princess Street, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1EW T: 01935 410777

SOMERSET GUIDE £250,000
A brand new 4 bedroomed house with 0.4 acre. Glorious views over open countryside.
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EPPING, ESSEX £825,000
A truly delightful period property situated in secluded location. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms plus shower room, games room, swimming pool, tennis court 3 acres.
[illegible]

PEARSONS
WATERLOOVILLE, DENMEAD £385,000
Residence set in landscaped grounds with indoor pool complex, 6 bedrooms, 4 receptions, 4 en suite bath/shower rooms, kitchen, utility, double garage.
[illegible]

Daniel Smith
WEST SQUARE, SE11 £475,000
Three fine Georgian houses overlooking the gardens in West Square. The houses are being completely refurbished to a very high standard.
Daniel Smith Residential 191 Kennington Lane, London SE11 5QS T: 0171 7359510 F: 0171 5823475

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY GUIDE £675,000
Situated in much sought after Givons Grove private estate with heated swimming pool, summer house, double garage, secluded south backing landscaped grounds.
Andrew Lodge Estate Agents 10 North Street, Leatherhead, KT22 7AW T: 01372 378588

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COOMBESIDE £240,000
An impressive detached bungalow, modernised and improved in recent years, benefiting from 110ft westerly aspect rear garden. Set in peaceful surroundings.
Lords: 406 Richmond Road, Ham, Kingston, Surrey KT2 5PU T: 0181 5466699

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PROPERTY

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REGENTS PARK Spacious 2 bed, 1st floor flat in small mansion portered block with underground parking, through lounge with dining annexe, fit kitchen with waste disposal, bathroom with shower, additional toilet, gas central heating. £250,000: 01509 672442

REGENTS PARK NW1 Excellent 1 bed Pied-A-Terre with patio in Crown Estate. Underground parking. Close Tube. £137,500 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

ST JOHNS WOOD 3 bedroom flat for sale in portered block close to St Johns Wood High Street and tube. Tel. Stock Page Stock. 0171 251 4171

W9 2 bed 1st flr flat in period conv. low outgoings £99,950. Westways 0171 792 2167.

W9 Bright two double bed apartment in second floor conversion in good condition £98,000 Pembertons 0171 266 2020

W2 Bright 2 bed, 5th flr flat (lift) in popular mod pbb. £159,500. Westways 0171 792 2167.

WEYMOUTH STREET W1 Excel 1 bed flat in small block. Nr centre of town 35 year lse. £99,995 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

WINDSOR WAY, W14. 4 storey hse 4 bed, recep, dining rm, kit/breakfast rm, 3 baths, sep cloakrm, pkg space, £449k. For quick sale 0181 563 0606.

W11 Spac, 1st grnd flr studio flat in period hse. £79,950. Westways 0171 792 2167.

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family kitchen/ bfst room
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NOTTINGHAM PLACE W1, new conversion of 2/3 Bedroom Apt. on 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Flr. Long lse, From £210K. Wallsway Estates 0171 224 0959.

W2 Bayswater/Notting Hill, mews house, 5 rms, 1½ bath, kit, 2 garages, £340,000 F/H. Tel: 0171 221 4811

W1 Northumberland Mansions. 2 bed flat, raised grnd flr. LH £199,500. LHS 0171 839 8011

W1 Selection of studios, 1 & 2 bed apartm. short lease from 80K to 200K. Wallsway Estates 0171 224 0959.

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ISLINGTON, N1. One double bedroom raised ground floor flat in converted Victorian terrace. Nr Tube. £82,000. Tel. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171

HIGHBURY/ ISLINGTON

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4 storey split Victorian home.
Upper 3 floors: 4 bedrooms, 1 bath + WC, lounge, dining room, kitchen, original working fireplaces, pine [illegible],
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KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

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EARLS CRT SQ SW5 1st flr 4 bed, 2 bath, dble recep & balcony o/looking comm gdns £425,000 L/H. Aaron & Lewis 0171 244 9911 T, 244 9838 F

HAZLITT HOUSE W14. Top floor 1 bed conversion. Leasehold £82,500. LHS 0171 838 0011.

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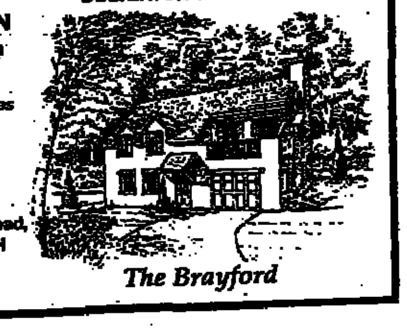
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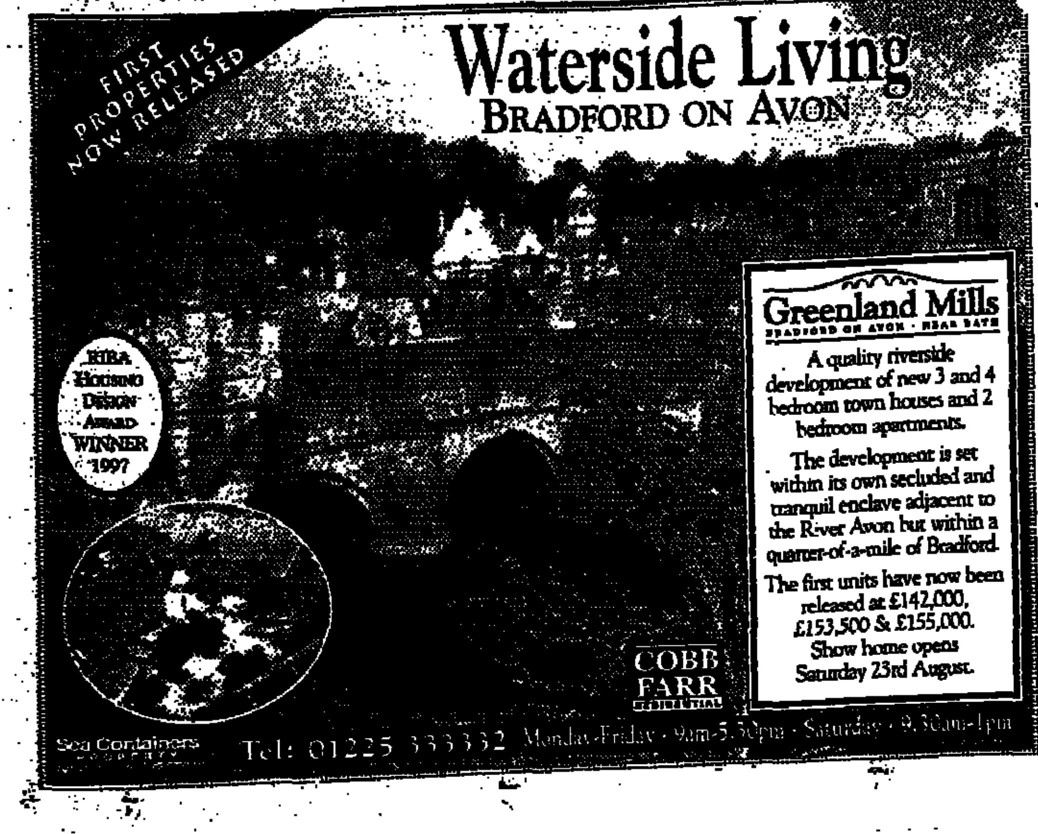
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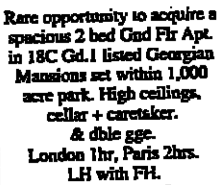

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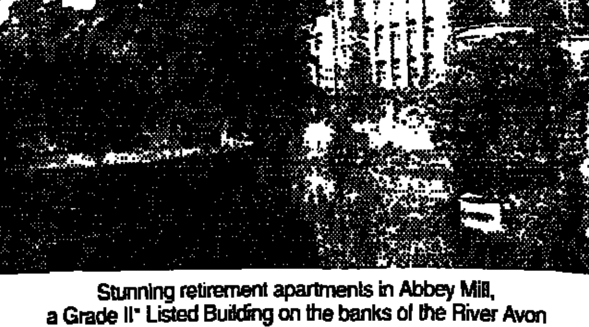

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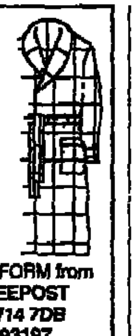

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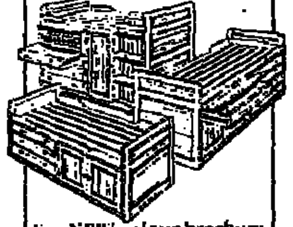

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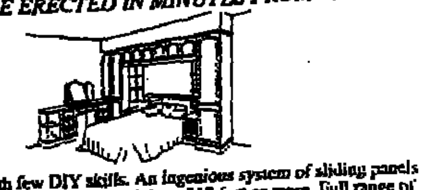

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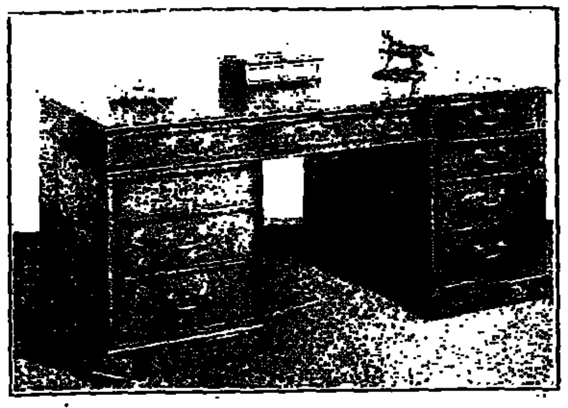

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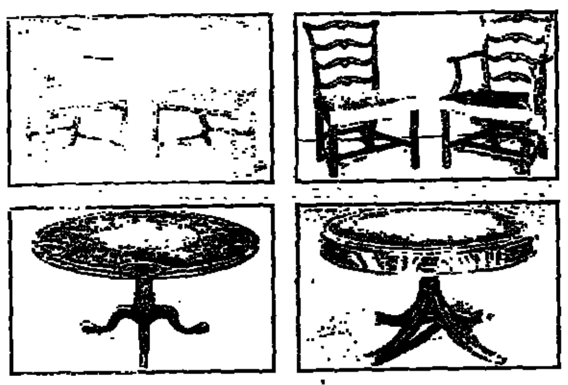

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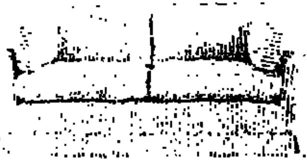

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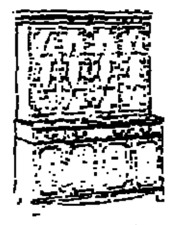

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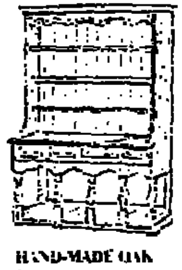

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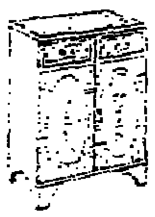

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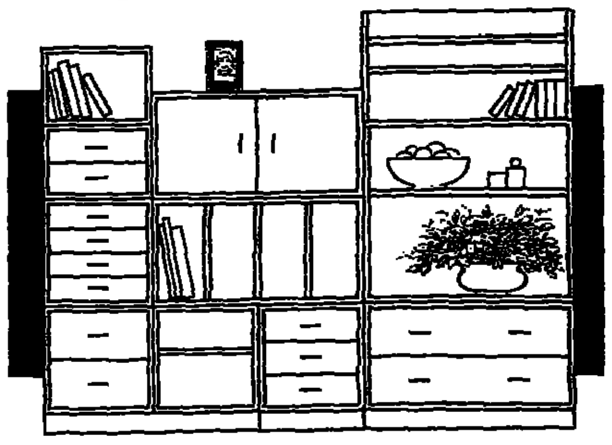

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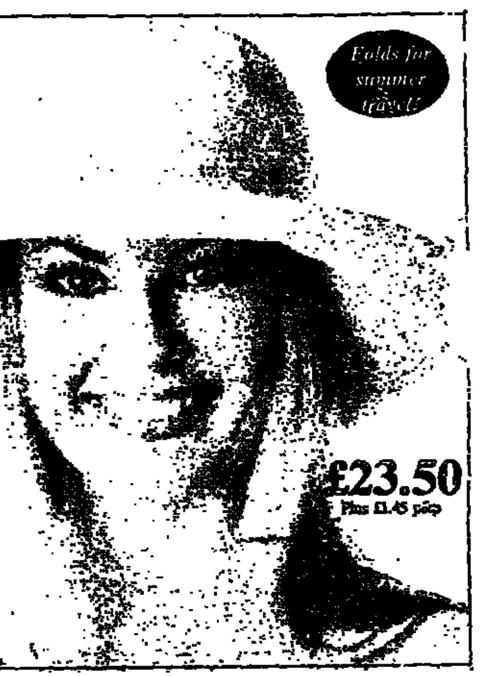

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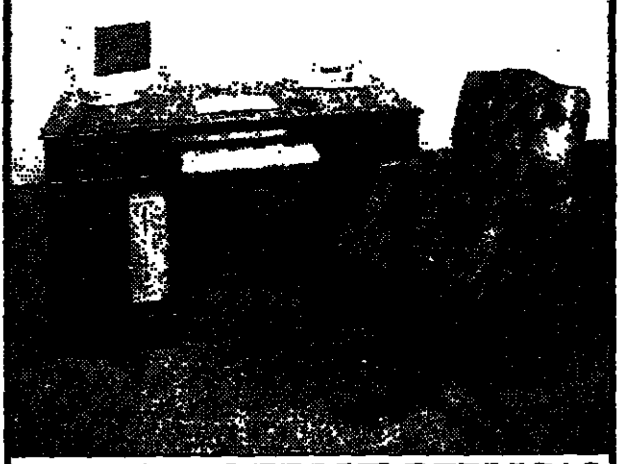

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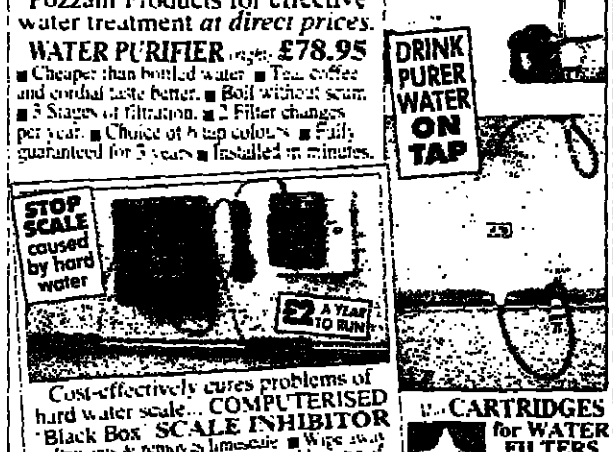

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ملحق ١٠ من الاصل

IAN LILLICRAP

Special foods used at Jewish festivals observe dietary rules dating from the Dispersion nearly 2,000 years ago which meant that Jews were prevented from eating outside their community, avoiding the threat of assimilation

Just like momma used to make

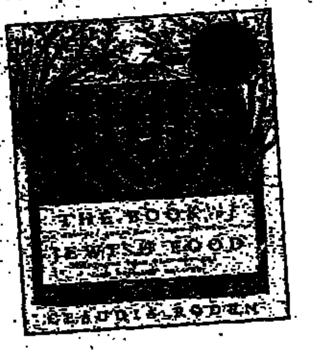
The world's Jewish cooking has been distilled into one comprehensive volume. **Stanley Price** looks back at a culinary tradition controlled by dietary laws and spiced with jokes and wonders why more of us don't try it

Mel Brooks has a story about his days as a comedian in the Borscht Belt, that string of Jewish hotels and boarding houses in New York's Catskill Mountains. Working there in the late 1940s, he claims to have saved many Jewish lives by going around after meals trying to stop replete elderly Jewish gentlemen, relaxing in rocking chairs, from singing the hit song *Dancing in the Dark* — or at least getting them to sing in a lower key.

The middle section has *some notoriously difficult high* notes and, in trying to reach them, these gentlemen, full of borscht, *chopped liver, roast* chicken, potato latkes, blintzes and strudel would clutch their chests *and go down like flies.* Brooks is, of course, talking of when Jewish cooking did not *pull its punches,* long before the nightmare of cholesterol-consciousness, and weight watchers.

In terms of dead and dying Jews, Brooks may have been taking comedian's licence, but Jewish food can be rich and heavy and, in large quantities, a health hazard.

The Borscht Belt — by combining food, Jews and comedians — inevitably gave birth to jokes about Jews and their gastronomic and digestive preoccupations. From there it was a mere hop, skip and an "Oy, I think I've twisted my ankle" to the Jewish mother joke, also largely based on her preoccupation with food.



Traditionally it was the materfamilias who had the power, which she wielded *from mission control in the* kitchen. Her constant exhortation to family and guests was: "*Have some more. What's the* matter, you don't like it?" All these strands come together in *the New York story* (circa 1975) about Mr Levy phoning his psychiatrist at four in the *morning.*

"Dr Goldfarb, I'm sorry to disturb you, but I've had a *terrible dream.*"

"It's all right," says Dr Goldfarb, gritting his teeth. "*What was it?*"

"I dreamt you were my mother."

"*Very interesting. So?*"

"I couldn't get back to sleep, so I got up and made some breakfast."

"Good. What did you have?"

"A cup of coffee, a piece of toast."

"A cup of coffee, a piece of toast?" Dr Goldfarb screams back. "What sort of breakfast is that for a grown man?"

The characters in all these stories are Ashkenazi Jews, the food that is talked about is Ashkenazi and, as with all the best Ashkenazi stories, fear *and paranoia are just around* the corner — and justifiably so. The Ashkenazim, of Central and Eastern *Europe, formed* 75 per cent of the world's Jewish population in the last *half of the 19th century. Most* lived within the repressive Russian Empire, including the Baltic *countries and most of* Poland.

My own four grandparents, *then unmarried, left Lithuania* and went to Ireland, a place I doubt they had heard of before. *My paternal* grandfather was en route to *America, but was* so seasick that he got off at Cork. I think the other three grandparents could not afford the fare to America. They stayed, bringing little with them except their religious orthodoxy and their Ashkenazi cooking.

In Ireland I alternated between grandparental homes each Friday night and had my introduction to the nearly 100 per cent chicken dinner — chopped chicken liver followed by chicken soup, with supposedly miraculous medicinal *properties, and its rich islands* of kreplach or knaidlach (dumplings), followed by the chicken itself, *roasted* and stuffed.

I once asked why we did not finish off with chicken ice-*cream, not* a *successful* joke. One of the basics of *kashrut,* the dietary laws, is not mixing meat and *milk, and if you* came from the poor life of a Russian *shtetl* you did not joke about chickens either. A good, *fat chicken* was a luxury and every bit was used.

There were also all-fish *nights, starting with chopped* herring and followed by gefilte fish, different chopped fresh fish formed into *balls* and boiled or fried. All this food seemed subject to the principle that if you can't chop it, stuff it. Polish Jews *did* both, stuffing a whole carp with other chopped fish. I wondered if *maybe in the old country* many Jewish teeth were not too good on solids. My mother, who learnt to cook Vilna-style from her mother, had low self-esteem when it came to gefilte fish. If one complimented her *on it, she always said* her mother or Aunt Sarah did it better, or that if only you'd *come last Friday . . . And, like* many good cooks, she was highly critical of other people's food.

She could well have been one of the Jewish women in *the story (circa 1996) having* lunch in a smart restaurant. They are approached by the head waiter who asks: "Is *anything* all right, ladies?"

‘Then the waiter asked: Is anything all right ladies?’

Behind all *the* tradition and self-mocking jokes lies *the serious matter* of the all-inhibiting dietary laws. A minority of British Jews now keep strictly "kosher" kitchens, but many observe some form *of prohibition, and* would draw the line at pig in any form. In the *old countries, and even among* first immigrants, the *kashrut* were strictly observed. Whether a Jew believed that the laws were divinely ordained or merely a complex hygienic code devised by far-sighted rabbis at the time of the Dispersion in the 1st century, there is no question that they were *an ingenious survival kit.* If your meat has to be slaughtered in a certain way and you cannot eat numerous *foods* or mix many others, you are prevented from eating outside your own home and community. *Kashrut* is thus a weapon against the threat of assimilation.

It took me a long time to *realise that the Ashkenazi* were not the only Jews in the universe. There were Sephardi *too, those Spanish and Portuguese* Jews who were expelled from Spain in 1492. They took their highly developed *culture* and fanned out round the Mediterranean and farther afield.

The Sephardi communities of the Mediterranean and Middle East inevitably devel*oped* their own distinctive cuisine, though still, of course, governed by the dietary laws.

Claudia Roden, the cookery writer and broadcaster, born and brought up in Cairo, comes from this tradition. She has spent 16 years researching *Jewish food from all parts of* the world. The result is *The Book of Jewish Food*, a com*pendium of gastronomic hist*ory, food lore and more than 800 recipes. "Ashkenazi foods *come from a cold world,*" *she* writes, "a world of chicken fat, onion and garlic, cabbage, car*rots and potatoes,* freshwater fish, especially carp and *salt herring.* The Sephardi world is a warm one of peppers and aubergine, courgette and tomatoes, rice and cracked wheat, saltwater fish *and* olive oil."

Despite her vast research, *it is easy* to see where Roden's heart still is. Though there are twice as *many* Ashkenazi as Sephardi Jews in the world, the reverse is true of the number of pages and *recipes devoted to each in* Roden's book. My own tastes in Jewish food are catholic, but I think *of my grandparents* and others and know there will be much turning in Ashkenazi graves.

If it comes to competitive gastronomy, I imagine a kitchen of Sephardi cooks might triumph over an Ashkenazi team with the subtlety of their flavours and the exoticism of their ingredients. But if it came to a straight fight, my *money would be on a direct hit* from a lockshen pudding or a volley of flying knaidlach — *fatal for any Sephardi already* weakened by too much sunshine and olive oil.

What emerges from Roden's research is that although influenced by the surrounding *cultures,* Jewish food, because of the dietary laws, has *maintained its own* distinctive character. More oddly, *however, and not* commented on by Roden, is how Jewish food and cuisine have had virtually no influence on non-Jewish *eating. The British* are notoriously conservative when it comes to eating habits, but now most are happily eating Indian, Chinese, Italian, Greek and Thai. Is there some *odd, inexplicable feeling that* with Jewish food comes the salt of affliction?

I am not at all sure who really reads cookbooks, but Roden's is a superior one. If its effect is to bring gefilte fish to the gentile kitchen and latke takeaways to the high street, she will be in Heaven, as the *prophets say, sitting on the* right hand of God.

‘A fat chicken was a luxury. Every bit was used’

REA

A shopkeeper prepares kosher food: curiously, such cuisine has had virtually no influence on non-Jewish eating

FOOD FEATURES

Momma's good cooking for Jewish New Year

STRICTLY **KOSHER**

- *ONLY animals that* chew the cud and have cloven hooves can be eaten. Blood is forbidden, so the animal must be slaughtered by cutting the throat and allowing as *much blood as possible to* drain away.
- Only fish that have fins *and scales can be* eaten. All shellfish are forbidden.
- At a meal, and in its *preparation, there must* be a complete separation of meat and milk. Separate *sets of crockery* and cutlery are used for meat and milk products. Dairy products may not be eaten after a meat meal for some hours.
- Neutral foods, such *as fish,* eggs, grain, vegetables and fruit, can be eaten with either *meat or milk products.*

BORSCHT

2lb (1kg) raw beetroot
salt and pepper
Juice of one lemon
2 tbsp sugar or to taste
6 peeled boiled potatoes (optional)
1 cup (250ml) sour cream to pass around

Peel and slice beetroot. If they are young, this is easy. *If they are old and* too hard to dice, cut them in half and, when they *have softened with boiling,* lift them out, cut them up and put them back in the pan. Put the beets in a pan with 9 cups (2 litres) of water and salt and pepper and simmer *for 1½ hours.* Let the soup cool, then chill, covered, in the refrigerator. Add the lemon and sugar *to taste before* serving (these could be added when the soup is hot, but *it is more difficult* to determine the intensity of the flavouring). Remove some of the beet pieces if they seem too much and keep them for a salad.

Serve, if you like, with a boiled potato, putting one in each plate. Pass around the sour cream for all to help themselves.

هذا من الاصل

Cooling recipes for hot dogs

They don't go mad in the midday sun but they do suffer like the rest of us, says

James Allcock

NEWS TEAM

Lucy Jones and her parents: a 12-month-old was the wrong dog

Out in the midday sun this week, four-year-old Lucy Jones from Greater Manchester was badly bitten by a springer spaniel. The spaniel had been bought the day before and had been described by her breeder as "placid".

Lucy has my sympathy and best wishes. I hope that there won't be any residual scars, mental or physical, and that she'll come back to enjoying dogs and dog-owning at some time in the future.

After the attack, Chief Inspector John Carling said: "It is always a risk to leave young children with animals, but particularly when the pet is new."

He's absolutely right: this advice has been given thousands of times previously. But Mr Carling went on to say: "The hot weather affects animals like it does people, and they may be more likely to attack than when it's cooler."

With all due respect, Chief Inspector, I don't know what evidence you have for that statement. I'm not aware that animal behaviour looms large in police training courses. My suspicion is that this was the wrong dog to buy — a 12-month-old from a breeder has had very little or no opportunity to socialise with young children and may well have led a kennel life.

Noel Coward's *Mad Dogs and Englishmen* has wonderful lyrics, but this is hardly evidence. Sane and non-rabid dogs snooze in the midday sun, in the shadiest place they can find. Attack is the last thing on their minds. It would involve exertion and energy. In extreme heat it's too much trouble even to eat until it's dark — as the newly-ennobled Roy Hattersley testifies with his goose-chasing bull terrier, Buster.

"Buster isn't keen on the heat," says Hattersley. "He doesn't eat much. And in the park every morning, where seven or eight dogs congregate, he doesn't run around as normal. He just sits under the trees. He plods home like a dog of 85, even though he's only two."

Hattersley says that Buster's problem hitherto has been hyperactivity. "But at the moment he looks as if he is pretending to be a tiger rug when he's at home."

Last year, during a similar heatwave, Dame Barbara Cartland said that her beloved pekinese, Mimi, who died last week, found the temperatures overbearing. Mimi would normally sleep either on Dame Barbara's bed or on a pink mattress in her bedroom. "For the first time," she said, "he took to sleeping in the fireplace. It was for the through draught."

Draught is helpful, but water is an imperative in this hot weather. It should be available throughout the day, although dogs don't drink a lot more in tropical temperatures than in cool ones. Paul O'Grady (or the television personality Lily Savage) has been putting rock sulphur in the dog water to keep his shih-tzu, also called Buster, cool. "You can buy it from the local pet shop as a block and chip it off," he says. "It stops him panting."

I'm sorry to say, Paul, that you're wasting your money. It's an old wives' tale that simply has no effect. Rock sulphur is totally insoluble in water and doesn't do anything.

Dogs lose very little water by perspiring — the only sweat glands are on the tongue and between the toes — and panting, which is blowing out hot air, is the most important part of a dog's cooling system, followed by radiation from the skin. Any hot dog will lie flat out on his back, with his hairless tummy exposed so that any passing breeze can blow away some of the excess heat. Peter Purves, the former *Blue Peter* presenter turned dog magazine editor, tells me he has shaved the stomach of his 13-stone Newfoundland, Gulliver.

Roy Hattersley and Buster: "He plods home like a dog of 85, even though he's only two years old"

Every year a few dogs die from heat stroke — many of which are left, thoughtlessly, by their owners in a parked car. This is because, once the air temperature gets above 94F (34C), which it would be in a car, the air breathed in is nearly as hot as the air breathed out and very little heat is lost by radiation. The dog's temperature starts to rise because its body is generating heat — if it rises to above 107F (42C), 5F above normal, it's critical, and, unless that dog is removed to a much cooler place, it will be in trouble.

Cold water on its feet and abdomen will help, as will a hosepipe shower, which could be a lifesaver. A dog suffering from heat stroke will need to see a vet, of course, but an immediate cooling-down is the answer.

If Lucy hadn't had a horrible experience I wouldn't be writing this. Parents of other Lucys, Alices, Johns or Simons should look for a young puppy, seven or eight weeks old, as the first dog, so that the two- and four-legged youngsters can grow up together.

And a well-chosen, well-socialised pup will grow up knowing it's bottom of the pack, and knowing that its young owner is there to be obeyed, perhaps protected, but never harmed.

PETS IN THE SUN

- Walk dogs before the sun is up or in the evening. Provide plenty of water. Never leave them in cars.
- Move fish tanks and metal hamster cages out of direct sunlight on window sills. Don't leave budgerigars in the sun either.
- Fish in outdoor ponds can suffer. Run water from a hosepipe into the pond or even aerate the water with a stick. Don't switch off fountains or waterfalls when going on holiday.
- Cats' ears and pigs' backs are vulnerable to sunburn. Dab on some sunblock and encourage the pigs to wallow.

A VET WRITES

Q **I read that some scientists reported an increased incidence of lung cancer in people who keep caged birds in their houses. Is this so?**

A A paper published in 1988 suggested it, but as far as I am aware no one has followed it up or taken it very seriously. It was a survey in Holland of 49 lung cancer patients, 48 of whom were smokers. The one non-smoker kept cage birds. There is a possibility of catching ornithosis — a lung infection — from birds carrying this disease. Newly-imported parrots can be a source of trouble, but I don't believe there's any risk from healthy caged birds.

Q **My Cavalier King Charles bitch has had an irritation on her lower jaw and under her chin for a year. The skin in this area is very pink and she rubs and paws at it continually. I've taken her to the vet and he suggested bathing her lips with dilute hydrogen peroxide, which made her vomit, and prescribed an ointment followed by an oil. Neither helped. Both were labelled "for external use only", so I used them sparingly because I was afraid she might swallow some. Her teeth have been checked; nothing wrong there. What can I do?**

A Your description suggests "labial eczema" or "skin-fold dermatitis", caused by saliva or sticky food accumulating in the folds of skin beneath her chin. I don't think peroxide made her vomit; it acts by releasing oxygen, which has no emetic properties. Panic plus excess salivation are more credible causes. "For external use only" does not imply a risk if tiny quantities are swallowed. It means don't pour it down her throat. My suggestions. Wash her face with gentle toilet soap or mild shampoo to remove all gooey material from the wrinkles below her chin. Ask your vet if the folds of skin could be flattened out by plastic surgery, and if cutting a small notch in her upper canine (eye) teeth would stop saliva running down them on to her lips. Avoid gravy-soaked foods, which leave traces round her mouth, and keep her biscuit dish as far as possible from her water bowl. Eating biscuits when her face is wet can create an adhesive paste. This sticks to the hair round her lips and adds to the general gooey mess.

Q **Is it true that many white cats are deaf?**

A There's an inherited deafness in certain white cats, especially those with two blue eyes. White cats with one blue and one orange eye may be deaf on the blue side but not on the orange side.

JAMES ALLCOCK

Fan mail is pouring in for the star of the new BBC series *Vets in Practice* but he has eyes only for work

Animal magnetism

BBC/ROB COUSINS

Paul Leonard prepares to inspect the rear end of a cow

Down on the farm I am looking at a perfect breed: nice even teeth, long lashes, strong hindquarters and skin in good condition. I am faced with the back end of six Friesian cows lined up for inspection, but Steve Leonard, star of the new BBC series *Vets in Practice*, is the animal I am really interested in.

Leonard has become the most desirable vet in Britain, and hundreds of women have been sending fan mail and offering themselves as dates. Seeing him in action, the animal attraction is awesome. Not only is this newly qualified vet a professional, having studied nearly every night since he was 16 to get the academic qualifications, but he is sensitive, too — the sort of chap that every mother dreams her daughter will marry.

"You have to be sensitive to do this sort of work," Steve says, gamely inspecting the insides of a cow. "When the cow tightens around the top of your arm it cuts off the blood supply and then it's hard to feel anything." It is clear why Steve was an ideal candidate for the original BBC series *Vet School*. His three brothers are all vets, his father is one and his mother would like to have been, "but it was difficult looking after four boys under five," he explains.

His winning smile and the fact that he tended to get his kit off and display his torso regularly (apparently the most hygienic way to scrub up before calving) also meant that he was voted one of *Company* magazine's top 50 bachelors.

Not that girls interest him as much as four-legged beasts. "I went to London for the Bachelors' Ball, but I didn't care for it," he says. "I played up to this image of a dim-witted northerner, and I wore a horrible checked tie and shirt."

Steve is not dim-witted (he is, if anything, a little overconfident), nor is he really a "northerner", having been born in Northern Ireland and brought up in Cheshire until he was 16, when he was sent to King's School, Chester. "My parents are both from working-class backgrounds, but they decided that, to give us the best shot at getting into vet school, we should all go to a private sixth form." Steve is on call three weekends in five, and on regular night duty. A typical weekend can see him called out on a Friday night to resuscitate a cat that has been poisoned by weed killer, performing emergency surgery on animals that have been crushed in car accidents and advising on abortive procedures for a herd of disease-stricken cows. It can be stressful — especially when he has to put animals down.

Although Steve has a house and car that come with the job, he sees a lot more muck than he does money, earning about £15,000.

As a result, his life is far from glamorous; in his spare time, if he is not playing rugby or basketball at the end of a hard day, he usually goes home and falls asleep in front of the television.

He has no complaints about being a bachelor, however, as he lives life exactly as he wants to. Not only does he have strict beliefs about eating animals and using them for medical research — he is a vegetarian and a firm believer in complementary medicine — but he does not drink, and cannot understand men going out with girls just for the sake of it. "I'm not saying I'd turn down Miss Perfect, but at the moment I'm quite happy on my own," he says.

One gets the distinct impression that Steve's Miss Perfect would have to emulate his mother. "Mum has always been a social reactionary and would never let things go. She now lectures at Keele University. She was the main driving force behind all of us."

Steve admits that he lacks the social graces to impress the ladies in London (one fashion editor at the Bachelors' Ball said "this man needs a good woman"), but he is at least socially aware. Aged five, he had ambitions to become a priest, but since then he has only ever wanted to be a vet. "You wouldn't do it for the money. It's a way of life," he explains.

He knows he is doing something for society, too. The code of conduct for vets says that they *have* to treat animals, even though they know the owners will often not be able to pay the bill. "But it's still important that we do that, even if it is emotional blackmail," he says.

Steve is probably one of the most emotionally stable young men you could hope to meet — and a lot of it probably has to do with his apparent disinterest in girls.

"The best female company are my three cats at home," he says, grinning. "They're very affectionate and they don't argue back."

VICTORIA O'BRIEN

● *Vets in Practice* starts twice weekly on BBC1 from Tuesday at 8pm.

ADOPT A DOG

PAUL STEWART

Annette Crosbie with greyhounds at an NCDL centre

ONCE greyhounds' racing lives are over — often after only four years — many are abandoned. There are even stories of owners cutting off a dog's ear to remove the identification tattoo before they dump them. The National Canine Defence League receives more than 2,000 greyhounds a year, and although many believe the breed are difficult pets, Nick Southall of the NCDL says they are easy to keep and are intelligent, gentle and sociable.

Annette Crosbie — who plays the long-suffering wife of Victor Meldrew in *One Foot in the Grave* — can confirm that; she owns three that were rescued. If you are interested in adopting a greyhound or would like a fact sheet, ring the NCDL head office (0171-837 0006).

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BORN TO DIE

Thousands of unwanted cats and dogs are destroyed daily in the UK. They are not sick or old, but healthy young animals born into a world where there are not enough homes to go round. [illegible]

The situation is a national scandal. If enough animals were neutered this daily slaughter would not take place. Many people, however, cannot afford the high cost of private veterinary fees to have their pets neutered.

C.H.A.T. opened the country's first low-cost neuter clinic for cats and dogs in Lewisham, South London in October 1995. In the first 17 months we have neutered over 13,200 animals belonging to people on a low income.

C.H.A.T. has now exchanged contracts on premises in Canning Town for a second neuter clinic which will enable the charity to cover the poorest parts of East London and Essex. We need to raise £140,000 to complete purchase of the building.

The Trust runs a rescue, rehoming service and sanctuary but low-cost neuter clinics offer the only real hope of a solution to the tragic problem of pet overpopulation.

Your help is desperately needed.

Please remember us in your will and/or send a donation to

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هكذا من الاصل

Spending yet another noisy, sticky summer in London is more than I can bear — but chivalry survives amid the chaos and saves the day

Of knights and summertime blues

LIFE AND SOUL

JANE SHILLING

On the narrow, stone-flagged path between the Royal Naval College at Greenwich and the river, a yelling midget is gesticulating with her rolled-up umbrella at a company of plump, flustered American tourists. Hot and unhappy, they form an impenetrable wall of flesh across the thoroughfare. Beyond them is another group, and another and another. The entire waterfront is clogged with sweaty humanity, wondering what the hell it is doing there. All over London, the pavements have acquired a sticky, glistening patina. On the filthy kerbs crouch fretful families, browsing on poison burgers and fizzy drinks. Late summer in the city — and I wish I were anywhere but here.

Every time I go away for a couple of weeks it is the same. Other people go to museums and art galleries on their holidays. I go to estate agents, brooding over other possible lives — in a tar-smelling loft overlooking a harbour, or a creeper-hung, red-brick dower house. Then I get back home to Greenwich, and the *Gloire de Dijon* is in bloom around the door, and I think, oh actually, it *is* quite nice after all. But out in the garden, in the lurid, purple-bronze London dusk, the air is filled with the thud of music from the local nightclub. In the small hours, I shall wake to the sound of the departing clubbers — the tinkle of broken glass, the crunch of fist on nose, the shrill cries of "Ow, leave it, Dean, he's not worf it . . ." On Sundays, the nightclub gives way to an eerie ululation, expressive, it seemed to me when I first heard it, of infinite agitation and distress. It is the sound of a nearby congregation speaking in tongues, and it goes on for hours.

"Oooh, I simply can't stand another minute of this," I moaned to Alexander's godmother. "I want a quiet life. I want to watch the heat haze drifting over fields of stubble. I want to keep Khakhi Campbells and Indian Runners. I never want to have to fish another Kentucky Fried Chicken carton out of the front hedge as long as I live."

Above all, I want more space. Snug as a ship's cabin in winter, in summer my house feels merely hot and cramped. My friend Charles put it to me straight recently: "No one will ever fall in love with you," he said, writhing restlessly on one of the spindly chairs with which my dolls-house rooms are furnished, "because your furniture is so uncomfortable."

This brutal *aperçu* sends me straight off to check out my file of estate agents' details. Brooding about cavernous *salons* filled with immense sofas, I wonder if there is anything about London that I might miss.

Apart from the London Library, I think the only thing is the weird chivalry of London drivers. It was first pointed out to me by an Austrian friend. Having just been pursued down Trafalgar Road by a wild-eyed chap in a white van, making eloquent gestures of reproach with both hands off the steering wheel, I was not much inclined to agree. "But look," he said, "at these charming people, letting me in with a gracious little wave, just like your Queen Mother. In Vienna this kind of politeness does not happen." And in Hertford, Hereford and Hampshire, it also rarely happens.

Because I am vague, and preoccupied, I quite often drive into the kerb at speeds sufficient to burst my tyres. The first time I did it, I was halfway up a perpendicular provincial road. I had not changed a tyre before, and the undertaking struck me as rather like those questions in the Civil Service exams, where you have to explain how you might get five soldiers across a river with the aid of a length of string and a stick of sealing wax. I dithered about, trying not to cry, while the local farmers thundered past in their Volvos and Range Rovers.

Eventually, having worked out that it was advisable to loosen the wheel nuts *before* jacking the car up, I effected the change. We drove away. To my astonishment, the wheel did not fall off.

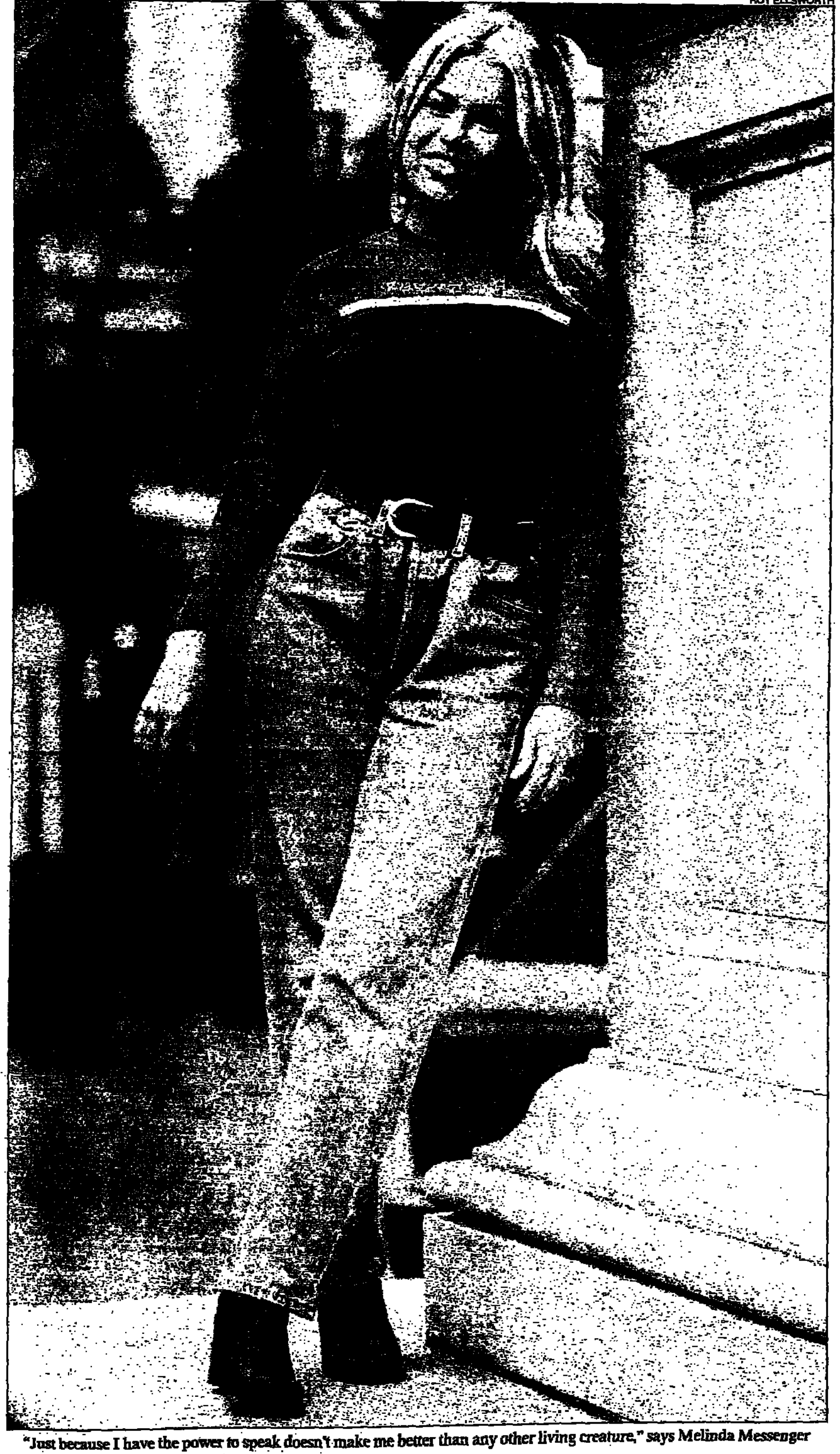
These days I can perform the whole operation in five minutes flat, so when I felt that familiar pop-and-grind on the approach to the Blackwall Tunnel one evening last week, I hopped out of the car and was just getting started when two nice Italian boys came over. They were waiting for a bus, they said, but in the meantime they would do this nasty, dirty job for me.

Now, the thing about bringing up a child on one's own is that one has constantly to deal, single-handed, with the most appalling crises. It breeds a habit of incorrigible competence, so that one doesn't quite know what to do with help and kindness when it is offered. So — no, no, said I, no help was necessary. Yes, yes, they insisted, and fiddled busily with the wheel until their bus arrived — much to my relief, since I could see they'd got the jack upside down.

At this point, St Christopher appeared, lightly disguised as a young postman. Good heavens, I thought. This sort of helpful queue never forms when I break down in Stelling Minnis or Woolfardisworthy. "Er, you've got the jack upside down," he said. "Fancy that," said I. "And you want to loosen the wheel nuts before you jack the car up." "Oh, really?" said I. "Let me do it," insisted St Christopher. "Oh, go on then," I said.

So he did. And then, handing back the wheel brace with a courtly gesture, he remarked, "I really admire a woman who knows how to change her own wheel", and sent me on my way with a smile of such dazzling sweetness as almost to reconcile me to life in London — filth, noise, sweating tourists and all.

ROY ELLSWORTH



"Just because I have the power to speak doesn't make me better than any other living creature," says Melinda Messenger

Spiritual Messenger of our times

There's more to Melinda Messenger than meets the eye, says **Ruth Gledhill**

I ask a male colleague who sits opposite me what is the first word that comes to mind when he hears the words "Melinda Messenger". His response is: "Chest". What about the silicone? "That's just for the devotees," he says, "for people who know about such things. It's the large breasts. Everyone's heard of her."

But there is more to Melinda than meets the eye. In between touring Britain's coastal spots on a topless double-decker bus, presenting a Sky TV show and preparing to play Diana Dors in an ITV drama, she features in a new TV series called *Headliners*, in which she talks about morality and religion, of all things, and her inclination towards Buddhism.

Not that Melinda, 26, has a religious belief as such. It is the fact that she appears not to need one that is faintly unnerving. But in that comfortable lack of belief, she bears little difference to so many of her contemporaries, the generation largely lost to the churches.

These are the offspring of the Sixties generation, who seem cheerful and comfortable to be so lost. In vain do the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and other church leaders condemn repeatedly the "pick 'n' mix" spirituality of the New Age. Unless burdened with a distaste for girls who are photographed taking their clothes off, and sadly Melinda's mother is one who seems to harbour such a dislike, there seems little to condemn in Melinda. "A bit of a girl for our times," says producer Doug Carnegie.

She has a carefully worked out morality which centres on not hurting people or animals, even bugs. She is intelligent, level-headed, beautiful and faithful to her boyfriend Wayne, whom she has been seeing for two years. She does not seem the type to go down the well-travelled road to ruin that begins with the catwalk, the road that leads to drugs, alcoholism, promiscuity.

Yet she picks and mixes her spirituality with the best of them, without remorse. If the church leaders are right, shouldn't she be miserable, suffering from her lack of belief? No such suffering seems apparent. Indeed, she appears more contented, more at ease with herself, than many of her peers who do find their way back to church. Of course, there is the possibility that it is all some fabulous act of make-believe. But even if that is so, she must then have a great future in Hollywood.

Lisa Potts and Clare Short also find comfort in their faith

Melinda has no religion, but she has faith in life, she tells presenter Anne Diamond. She also believes in life after death. "I do believe that we go on," she says. "I am not sure where we go on to, whether it is Heaven or whether it is somewhere that is still within this Earth or another dimension. But I do believe people have a spirit, and the spirit will go on and there is something there."

She does not have faith in God, but confesses: "There is some sort of entity, some sort of power."

She is confused by the profusion of religious choice in today's society. "There are so many religions. If I had to pick one, then it would be Buddhism. That is the one I feel most comfortable with." For example, she says, she believes even the smallest creature should be allowed to live. "I don't kill a bug just because I don't like it," she says. "I allow it to live. Everything has got its place. Just because I have the power to speak doesn't make me better than any other living creature."

These days Melinda is making a great deal more than the £23,000 she earned as an office manager when a double-glazing firm featured her in posters on a bus shelter. The posters kept disappearing, sales shot up and the company took on more staff, while Melinda shot to stardom on Page Three.

Wary of the pitfalls, she considered her options carefully, she says. But she thought about what was being offered, and decided to go for it. It was not a decision made cynically. "It is not for the money. It is for having a different life," she says. "If I had turned it down, then what regrets would I have? I would still be going to work every day, nine-to-five, Monday to Friday. I would not have gone to the places I have gone to. I also know if I don't like it, I can go back to normal life."

Beneath the breasts, the blonde hair, the bravado, is a young woman living her life by definite spiritual and moral principles. "I was quite astonished when I met her," says Doug Carnegie. "Her character comes across as classic West Country Quaker. She knows right from wrong. She clearly is not stupid. There is something quite *candide* about her."

On Monday, Melinda sets off on another roadshow for *The Sun*, which dubbed her the "Girl for the Thrillennium". She begins in Weymouth, finishing on Friday in Blackpool. Melinda Messenger might not be as famous as Madonna or as rich as the Spice Girls. But the exceptional quality of her unexceptional life makes her truly an icon of the New Age.

In addition to Melinda, Lisa Potts, the Wolverhampton nursery nurse who protected children by taking the brunt of a frenzied machete attack, and Clare Short, the Overseas Development Secretary, appear in the series *Headliners*, which starts tomorrow in Central Region. Ms Potts describes how her faith has helped her to recover. Although no longer a nursery nurse, she believes it was God's wish that she was there on that day to protect the youngsters. And Ms Short describes how Catholicism has helped her in her multicultural Birmingham constituency.

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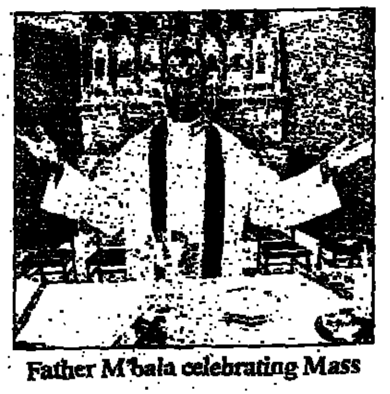
Message from a Congo missionary

An African supply priest is bringing a multicultural message to Sheerness

A COUPLE of overweight, drunk, middle-aged men glared at me as I walked to Mass in the Roman Catholic parish church in Sheerness, a seaside resort in Kent. The beach was almost empty, apart from the occasional mother or grandmother shepherding small children to and from the brown, seaweedy water. Unpromising flats and houses in the local estate agents' windows were unbelievably cheap. Business at the local pawnbrokers appeared brisk.

Father Felicien Ilunga M'bala, from the Congo, is filling in as a "supply" priest at Sheerness, where the parish is about to go into interregnum as the priest departs for pastures new. Fluent in French and his native African tongue, his plan was to brush up on his English to help him with his studies at the prestigious Louvain University in Belgium. But his days so far in this "land of hope and glory" seem to have left him faintly bemused. He regards himself as a product of European missionary activity in deepest Africa, and has clearly decided to view his stay in Britain as a chance to give back some of what he was given.



Father M'bala celebrating Mass

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PARISH PRIEST: Rev David Standley

ARCHITECTURE: Cream, pink and gold interior. ★★★

HOMILY: "There is no love of God without loving of brothers and sisters." ★★★★

MUSIC and LITURGY: Nun sang the gospel acclamation. ★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Calm and cool. ★★★★

Sheerness seems oblivious to this exotic talent. But inside the church, the bleakness of the town is relieved by hope. The statue of the Virgin Mary is decked with flowers and the stations of the cross are painted in ice-cream colours. The pews shine with polish. The congregation is friendly. Father M'bala apologises before we begin. "My English is not perfect. I do my best to speak," he says, but he is easily understood.

For a Monday midday service, the church is surprisingly full, with a congregation chiefly of young and older women. "Welcome, brothers and sisters, to this Mass," says Father M'bala, 39, who preaches on the mandate: "Follow me". Afterwards, parishioners described the value they placed on the work of priests from abroad. "It is nice to have experience of different cultures," said Annie Pond, 87, who was married in the church in 1936 and has served as a housekeeper for a number of its priests. Jenny Walls, a mother of five, said: "The foreign priests bring something to us. It is strange. We went out as missionaries to them, and now they are reminding us of what we have forgotten."

R.G.

● *St Henry and St Elizabeth, The Broadway, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1TS (01795 662142)*

هكذا من الأصل

‘Soil has none of the romance of the badger, butterfly, red squirrel or bat; no one sells flags to support it, but it is fundamental to life’

Dig the dirt and give thanks

DOWN TO EARTH

PAUL HEINEY

Back to basics. Will everyone, please, at some stage during the next few days, take hold of a handful of soil and show it some respect? Grab some, take a long, hard look at it, marvel at its workings, sing in praise of its chemistry, bless its bugs for being; and before placing it back on the ground, say *thank you*.

If ever the environment had a poor relation, it is the soil. It has none of the romance of the badger, butterfly, red squirrel or bat; no one sells flags to support it, its conservation attracts no glitzy corporate money. Only one charity, the Soil Association, takes it seriously; yet even in enlightened times the association has to struggle to campaign for its maintenance by organic methods.

But soil is as fundamental to the maintenance of life on earth as more modish concerns, such as the disposition of the ozone layer, or the carbon monoxide levels in our summer air. You'd think there was something filthy about soil, the way we turn up our noses at it.

Nowhere has the point been better made than by the actions of a supermarket attempting to expand its car park near Stockport, Cheshire, and of councillors in Warwickshire who refuse to remember the earthy foundations of their new housing estate. Let us take the supermarket first.

In a plan to expand a car park, it became clear that an adjoining set of allotments would have to be sacrificed. The gardeners disagreed. Not because they objected to the inconvenience of their plots being moved down the road to another site at the supermarket's expense, nor because the £1,000 they were each offered was considered patronising. They objected because they did not want to leave behind some of the finest growing soil to be found for miles around. They had created it over years by their own efforts and watered it with the sweat from their own brows. They manured it, weeded it, dug it, forked it over, and were careful not to overwork it when wet. They treated it as precious, and in their hands it has become so, as valuable as gold dust and an investment with a guaranteed return over successive harvests. Such a loss could not be compensated with petty cash.

Now, had it been a public park, water meadow or owl sanctuary which the supermarket people were planning to flatten, there would have been an outcry and another march to Hyde Park. But it was only soil, in which allotment holders grew vegetables, so nobody rushed to their support. They are dismissed as eccentrics. But imagine if you were one of those growers a couple of years hence, knowing that what was once your precious soil was now buried deep beneath the over-lit, air-conditioned vegetable department. Would it not make you weep, to reach for a shrink-wrapped cabbage which had travelled halfway around the world and know that beneath your feet once grew greens, greener in every sense than anything bought in a superstore? I hope those lads stick to their guns. On the same theme, it is time to pour shame on the town councillors of Whitnash, Warwickshire, where a housing estate is being built on the former site of the South Leamington allotments. Bad enough that it went ahead in the first place, but at least the builders had the sensitivity to understand that one person's housing gain was another's environmental loss. By way of memorial, the developers suggested that the street names on the new estate should reflect the honourable history of the patch of land. This gave rise to suggestions of Turnip Drive and Parsnip Road. It showed their heart was in the right place, even if imaginations were on holiday.

The local council was quick to respond with a raspberry, sniggering, "Who wants to live in Artichoke Avenue?". Councillor Bernard Kirton went even further by saying: "We reckon this is taking the green philosophy a bit too far. I've dubbed the idea Spud Alley." There is no record as to what he has been dubbed in return. Mr Rhubarb?

It is all so depressing, because it shows that, despite all the advances we think we have made in bringing ecological issues before a wider public, despite all the boxes that have been rattled to fund the whale, the rainforest, the dolphin and the owl, we are no closer to an appreciation of, or respect for, the basic commodity on which life depends. No soil, no food, no life.

Intensive farming doesn't give a damn about soil. Short-term profit-seeking forces it into submission chemically and mechanically. If, one day, it should scream "enough, enough!" (as, arguably, the cows did when unnaturally fed animal by-products), where do we go to plant the crops? Dig up the supermarket? Or perhaps remember the words of Lady Eve Balfour, the author of *The Living Soil* and founder of the organic movement more than 60 years ago:

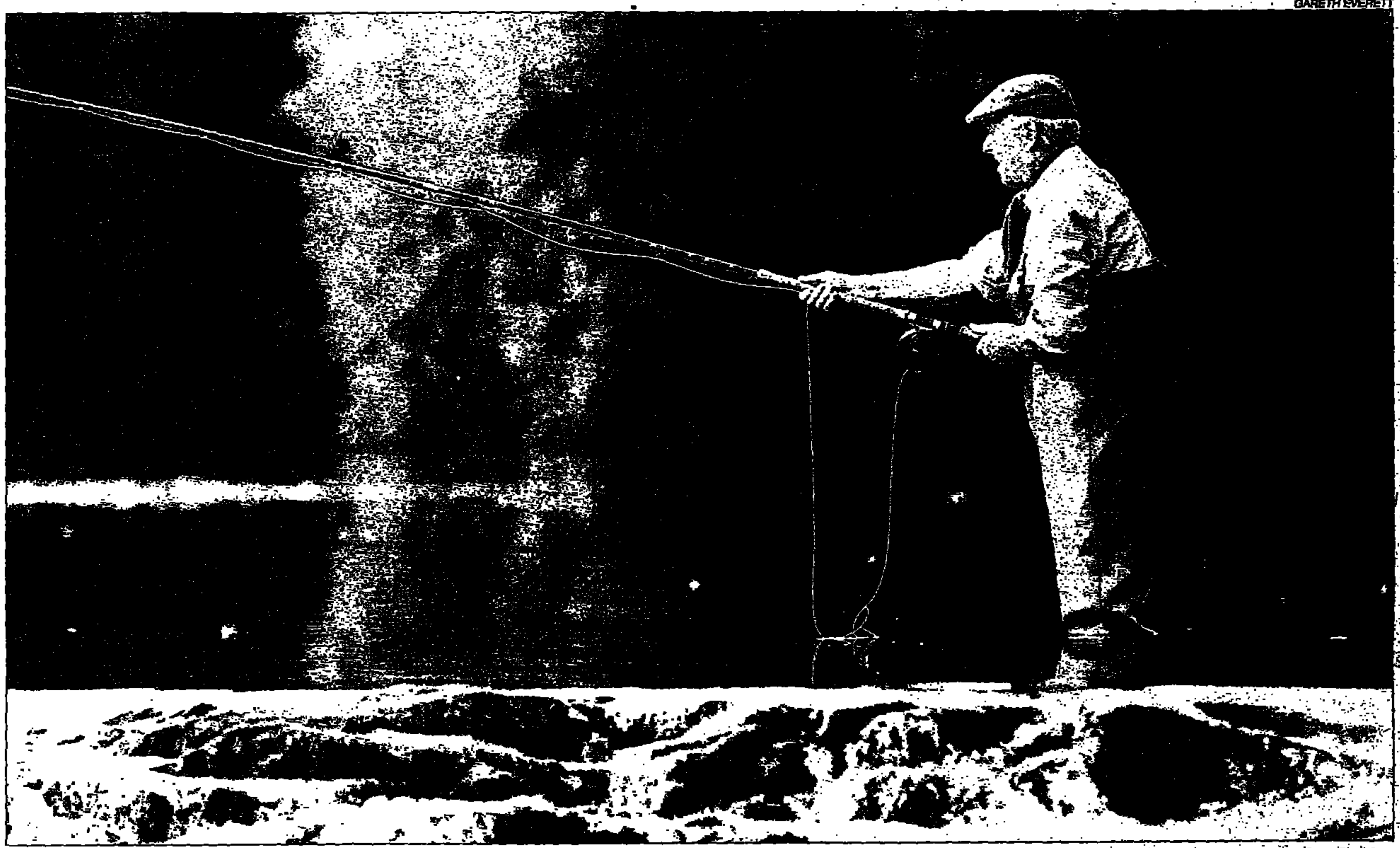
When a new generation has arisen, taught . . . to value and conserve its soil . . . then not only will our land have citizens worthy of it, but it will also be a land of happy and contented people, for it is important to remember that happiness is a by-product. It is, moreover, a by-product of activity and not of ease. It cannot be found ready made.

So dig the dirt: revere it.

Readers' letters are welcome on countryside matters of all kinds. Address them to: Paul Heiney, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. They are published on the first Saturday of the month.

Wye river hits rock bottom

Despite a 37lb catch in June, salmon stocks are low, **Alan Road** reports



GARETH EVERETT

Richard Stockton casts his line: private estates meant a landowner and his guest could fish alone; now syndicates can mean three or four rods on the same stretch a day

When Chris Hordern pulled a 37lb salmon from the Wye near Builth Wells in the last week of June, word sped along the river bank like a hungry cormorant.

Philip Parkinson was telephoned within 20 minutes of the fish's demise. As vice-chairman of the Wye Foundation, he hoped that the wettest June in 50 years was reviving the river's fortunes.

The 130-mile-long Wye has long been regarded as the most famous salmon river in England and Wales. Its merits were chronicled in the 12th century by Giraldus Cambrensis, a Welsh cleric, and 500 years later by Izaak Walton in *The Compleat Angler*.

Even 20 years ago, annual rod catches of salmon still totalled 7,000 and average size was 12lb. Today catches have fallen to 2,000 and average size is down to 8lb. A 4ft-long, nicotine-stained cast of the last 37lb salmon caught hereabouts — in 1986 — glowers from the wall in the bar of the Griffin Inn at Llyswen, Powys.

When Joseph Sinclair followed up the Builth catch with a 28lb salmon landed further downstream, hopes were again raised, but it takes more than one decent-sized fish to make a summer for anglers. Joseph's father, Hubie, is an optimist: "I walk the river with my dog and until a week ago I saw a salmon leaping every day." Hubie believes that, like the economy, the river's problems are cyclical and have "bottomed out". Fishermen who congregate at the Griffin are less certain.

Gillie Bryn Davies does not think the river will recover in his lifetime. He is 70 and could usually guarantee to catch a fish for his birthday on April 17. But not this year. "The rains are not coming like they used to," he says. "And the salmon need the water to come through."

The odyssey that takes the two-year-old parr down the Wye and out into the Atlantic, where it gorges in the feeding grounds off Greenland for up to three years before returning to fight its way up-river to the very pool where it was born to thrash a hole in the shale with its powerful tail and bury eggs, fills Bryn with admiration.

The Wye and the wherefore of the decline that has brought Bryn two blank years puzzles others in the bar of the Griffin. Landlord Richard Stockton blames the proliferation of fishermen like himself. Once, when the surrounding estates were all privately owned, a landowner might spend the odd weekend fishing with his gillie and a guest.

"Now, thanks to death duties and the splitting up of estates, the 'old money' has had to syndicate the water," he says. Three or four rods could be fishing the same stretch every day of the season. "If you compound that all the way down the river, you can see the extent of the problem."

For Philip Parkinson the problem is that every angler believes he has an unique insight into the causes and solution of the problems. As he is a graduate in fisheries management with wide experience in the water industry, he is well qualified to provide a more dispassionate perspective. Little can be done locally about global warming that may be raising temperatures on the fishing grounds, or about the Greenlanders and the Irish and Welsh gill-net fishermen who intercept the salmon on their journeys. So the foundation concentrates on its own 130-mile beat.

A survey of the mass of tributaries in Plynlimon found many choked by fallen trees and branches. More than 200 of these blockages have been removed in the past year. A more intractable problem is the poisoning of catchment areas by acid rain and the planting of conifers.

Farmers are to be encouraged — and financially assisted — to fence off streams and prevent stock eating vegetables that provides shade and cover for young fish. When more people were employed in farming, there was manpower to coppice the alders that ribbon the river and exclude sunlight.

Losses to poachers, cormorants and the goosander — "an extremely efficient fish-eating machine with wings" — must be limited. All these pieces of the ecological jigsaw are both labour-intensive and expensive, Mr Parkinson admits. Which is why the foundation is busy raising money from anglers and fishery owners.

"We are fortunate that, despite the current lack of salmon, fishing rights on the Wye are very expensive," he says. The river accommodates 120 significant owners, whose fisheries change hands for up to £600,000. When the foundation recently issued them with voluntary assessments, based on the old local authority rating system, it met with a 90 per cent compliance. "It was quite amazing."

One prescription for arresting the decline might be a catch-and-release policy: "If you bought in an outside consultant, not involved in the passion of angling, he would ask why fishermen worried about stocks of salmon kill the fish they catch.

Sadly, anglers often want to take their fish home to eat it or to show friends how clever they are. "It's in the blood," says Mr Parkinson, who releases everything he catches and believes the policy will eventually catch on.

He warns: "Either we tackle these problems or shrug our shoulders to the fact that there won't be any more salmon and take up golf."

One that didn't get away in 1986 in the bar of the Griffin

A time of much hooting

FEATHER REPORT

THE other night I heard a tawny owl hooting outside my house in Regent's Park in the middle of London. It was the usual haunting sound — a clear hoot, followed by a strange, throat-clearing noise, and then the long, tremulous hoot fading away. This was the first time for three years that I had heard one from my bedroom and I hope it is taking up a territory in the surrounding gardens, where there always was one.

In fact, this is the time of year when much hooting begins among tawny owls. The fledglings stay with their parents for several months, but now the young males are looking for territories and competing with older males for them. The owls hoot to announce their ownership of their realm, and in August and September can even engage in quite fierce nocturnal fights for land. In most years there is not much new space available with a sufficiency of birds and rodents to feed on and many young owls die of starvation in the autumn.

Occasionally they hoot or even forage in the daytime, but they are generally birds of the night, and one only sees them flitting past on dark, moth-like wings. One is most likely to get a view of them when they are caught in the headlights of a car. I remember coming up the drive of a house in the Lake District and suddenly seeing one on the ground in front of the house, brilliantly illuminated in the headlights. It stared at us, motionless, as we slowly drove nearer and we could see its large, dark eyes and what even such a learned work as *The Birds of the Western Palaearctic* calls its "kind face". Finally it rose and slipped into the darkness.

PETER BROWN

Tawny owls are territorial

IN THE COUNTRY, tawny owls feed mostly on mice and shrews, while in towns they prey on roosting sparrows and tits, and take rats whenever they see one. They have been known to agitate bushes with their wings to disturb the birds sleeping in them. They also eat earthworms on lawns. Wet and windy nights are difficult for them, because the slight sounds of the darkness on which they depend are harder to make out.

They disappear in the day into ivy and thick foliage — but they leave behind evidence that they are there, in the form of regurgitated pellets made of feather, fur and bone.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — listen for robins' autumn song. Twitchers — a western sandpiper at Musselburgh, East Lothian; a solitary sandpiper on Guernsey; a spotted crake at Sandwell Valley, West Midlands. Details from Birdline, 0891 700222. Calls cost 50p a minute.*

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ON THE SPOT: WALTHAM ABBEY

The place: The Dragonfly Sanctuary, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

The view: *Dragonflies hover and skim the gently flowing River Lee and ahead lies verdant meadowland leading to a row of tall conifers lining the horizon. The tower of Waltham Abbey pierces the skyline in the south-west.*

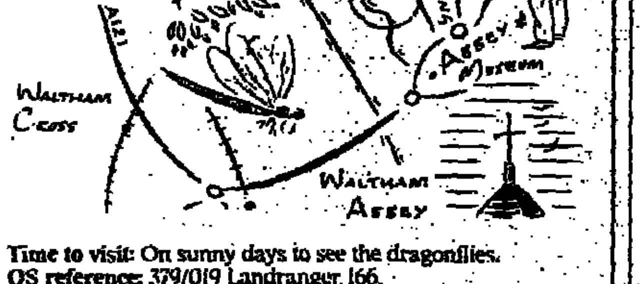
The appeal: *Although close to the town, the sanctuary attracts half of Britain's native species of dragonfly.*

Aficionados: Locals taking a stroll and nature lovers, some with picnic chairs, looking for a suitable spot.

Historical interest: The Norman town of Waltham Abbey lies on the Greenwich Meridian 0 degrees longitude and you can cross the line in Sun Street. The Abbey stands on the site of several churches, the last of which was built by King Harold and a stone denotes his reputed burial place. The oldest surviving house dates from 1400. Gunpowder was manufactured here and the gunpowder mills, built in 1665, provided additional work during the Napoleonic wars between 1793 and 1815.

How to get there: Take B194 and turn left into Cornmill Meadows car park. Cross the weir bridge, turn left and walk 50 yards.

JANE SPENCER



Time to visit: On sunny days to see the dragonflies.
OS reference: 379/019 Landranger 166.
Also nearby: Waltham Abbey Museum, nature trails and bird hides and a timbered 15th-century building, now a quaint tea room overlooking the Abbey gardens.

DEBORAH KING

ضعيفا من الاصل

Where Adam fell in love

Crete · 18

THE TIMES
travel

Be here now in the city of Oasis

Manchester · 19

Packaged tales of the Dark Continent

STEVE J. BENBOW

Children mingle with tourists in Juffureh, the Gambian village to which Alex Haley, the author of *Roots*, traced his great-great-grandfather. The village is now home to the Roots Slave Trade Museum

The Gambia is not just beach heaven; real Africa is here too — if you look for it, says **Stephen McClarence**

Blame Alex Haley. Without his novel, *Roots*, Juffureh would be just another West African village up-river in The Gambia. As it is, a procession of 200 lobster-pink tourists is making its slow, shoulder-bagged way along the jetty in the midday heat.

Their boat set off three hours ago from Banjul, the tiny capital of Africa's smallest country — a long, thin finger poking 300 miles into the side of Senegal. Up on deck, the first bottle of beer is rolling round at 9.30am. By 11am, the suntan lotion is glistening in the glare. The tourists — mostly on cheap packages — are roasting gently and at noon, with Richard Clayderman smooching over the PA, they peel themselves off their plastic chairs and step out on to the Juffureh jetty.

"Hey, boss man, you come to see craft market?" No, they come to see Binta Kinte, an icon of Gambian tourism. Haley traced his great-great-grandfather, a deported slave, to this village and Madame Kinte, a woman of wizened antiquity, claims to be a direct descendant. The tourists trudge sweatily past corrugated iron huts and bleating goats and children playing under baobab trees ("How do you like our small country? Any pens?").

A self-appointed guide leads them to a thatched shelter where a young woman stirs herself languidly from sleep. The tourists sit and wait for the Gambian equivalent of an audience with the Pope.

Slowly a door opens and Madame Kinte emerges from the darkness carrying a crudely framed photograph of herself and Haley. It has been cut out of an in-flight magazine. She passes it round, the tourists photograph each other with her and drop money in a wicker basket.

A hundred yards away, the Roots Slave Trade Museum documents the appalling conditions endured by the slaves shipped to America. The facts — there were at least 20 million of them, one in three died on the ships — speak for themselves, but the museum plans to extend its displays of neck shackles and leg irons.

"We want to recreate the interior of a slave ship," says Sam Samuel, a development worker at the museum. "The sights, the sounds, the — er — smells. And it will be interactive." So tourists can pretend to be slaves and slip on the manacles? "Oh yes," he nods solemnly.

Tourism is crucial to The Gambia, but the country has boxed itself into a corner. For 30 years it has been the Costa del West Africa — a mass market for cheap holidays with no greater exertion than slapping on the sunblock, ring-pulling the lager can and turning the pages of a Danielle Steel bestseller.

Now there are dissenting voices. Some worry that most of the profits go straight to British tour companies without reaching the local economy. The companies dictate terms and when they pull out — as they did after a coup in 1994 — The Gambia suffers.

Some tourists never stir from the cosy cocoon of their hotel compound (topless sunbathing and bingo in five languages) to glimpse the realities of Gambian life. Africa's third poorest country may only flash past the coach on the dispiriting half-hour drive from the airport.

"They do what they want, eat what they want, drink what they want, without any reference to the local culture," says Louise Kempton, an Irish development worker who coordinates Gambia Tourism Concern, a campaigning group. "It's like the old colonialism."

She is worried about the social and environmental impact of mass tourism. Coastal erosion, perhaps caused by over-development, is sweeping away some of the beaches. One hotel has imported 40,000 sandbags from Germany to protect its beach.

The Gambian Government is full of good intentions. It talks of diversifying into eco-tourism to encourage more upmarket, higher-spending tourists. But it is still proud to announce four new beach hotels on its Atlantic coast.

There are many anomalies. The country's director of tourism, Mbo Cham, says the country is "safer than Kensington High Street", but acknowledges that beach "bumsters" plague tourists, touting for shops and tours.

A hotel owner laments the spread of "Coca-Cola culture", then settles back for his evening tourist show. It features Gambians doing Elvis Presley impersonations. European tourists apparently complain about too much African culture in the shows.

But there is another Gambia. More adventurous tourists buy packages and branch off independently — maybe to the Kemoto Hotel, a garden village of African-style huts (*en-suite*, naturally) 70 miles up-river from the resorts.

At midnight in the hotel, beyond the whirring fans and the chirping cicadas, there is a gentle lapping of water. A jetty teeters out into the River Gambia, here four miles wide. A tissue-paper moon glints on the water, the mangrove creeks stretch blackly out and distant drums thud in a stillness that is deep and vast. Suddenly this is the mystery of Africa, a hint of Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*.

Kemoto and the similar Tendaba Camp nearby are among the best places to sample the 560 species of birds that make The Gambia one of Africa's most treasured and accessible bird-watching sites.

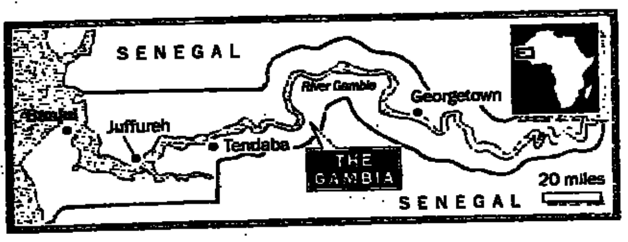
Clive Barlow, a Lancashire man over here for 12 years, is an ideal guide. As co-author of *Field Guide to the Birds of The Gambia*, a handbook coming out next month, he leads safaris through the bush in a battered pair of suede boots. "Egyptian vulture!" he calls out from the front seat of a Land Rover bumping along the dusty roads. "Spotted eagle owl! Grasshopper buzzard! Usher's spine-tailed swift! On the must-see list."

It is dusk and families are sitting around fires outside their huts. A bush baby scrambles up a tree next to a termites' nest. Birds flash across the headlights like flying rainbows. Barlow stops the Land Rover and trains his searchlight on a long-tailed nightjar squatting unconcernedly on the road. And that animal over there, Clive? "A goat . . . a very small goat."

At Tendaba he hires a boat to chug quietly up the mangrove creeks. The mangroves stretch 15 miles back from the mudflats. Much of the area is uncharted.

Birds swoop and shriek, otters scuttle and Barlow leans back in the boat, hands behind his head like the Lord of the Mangroves. Suddenly: "Wow wow wow wow wow wow!" It is the call of the Greater British Ornithologist spotting a blue fairy flycatcher. "And that's a vinaceous collared dove. The colonials used to call it the 'time-to-go-home bird'. When its call finally drove you nuts, it was time to go home."

The British colonials finally went home in 1965 after granting independence to The Gambia. Their capital, Bathurst, was renamed Banjul but little else seems to have changed. A dusty Union Jack is propped up in a dark corner of a museum mostly dedicated to fertility beads, circumcision sticks and antelope masks. A cluster of photographs shows the British commissioners and governors in all their braid and epaulettes. These were the days of diplomatic scholarship. Sir Herbert Richmond Palmer, governor from 1930 to 1933, found time to publish *Carthaginian Voyages to West Africa in 500 BC*. One to read when you've finished the Danielle Steel.



THE GAMBIA FACT FILE

- **The author travelled with the Gambia Hotel Association and First Choice Holidays (0161-742 2228), which offers a winter sun programme in The Gambia from November to April. One week's B&B at the Kombo Beach Novotel, flying from Gatwick or Manchester on November 1, costs £379 per person, based on two sharing a room. Holidays throughout the season cost between £355 and £529.**
- **The Gambia Experience (01703 730888) has year-round charter flights from Gatwick from £249 and from Manchester from £264 and sells package holidays. Thomson, Airtours, Cosmos and Sunworld also operate to The Gambia.**
- **Accommodation: The Kombo Beach Novotel Hotel at Kotu Beach (00 220 465466) has double rooms from £39 a night excluding meals. The Kemoto Hotel (220 460606) charges £41 a night for a double, full board. Tendaba Camp (fax 220 466180) charges £10 per person per night, excluding meals.**
- **Further information: Gambia National Tourist Office, 57 Kensington Court, London W8 5DG (0171-376 0093).**
- **Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Chaff in the Wind*, by Ebou Dibba (MacMillan, £4.25); *Birdwatcher's Guide to the Gambia*, by Rod Ward (Prion, Huntingdon, £9.75); *Insight Guide, Gambia and Senegal* (£13.99).**

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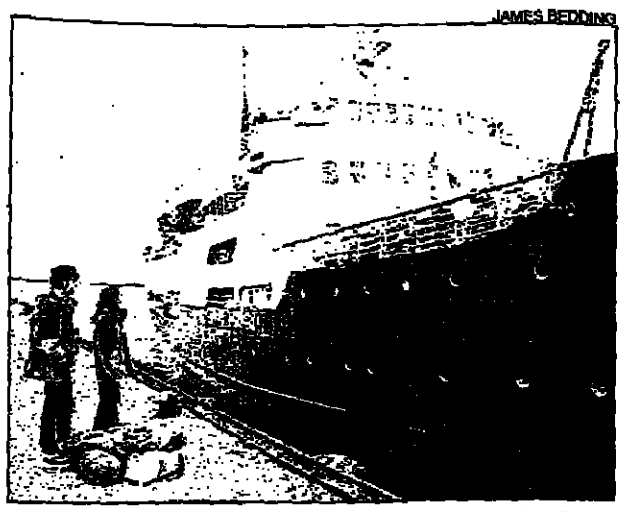
هكتا امن الاول

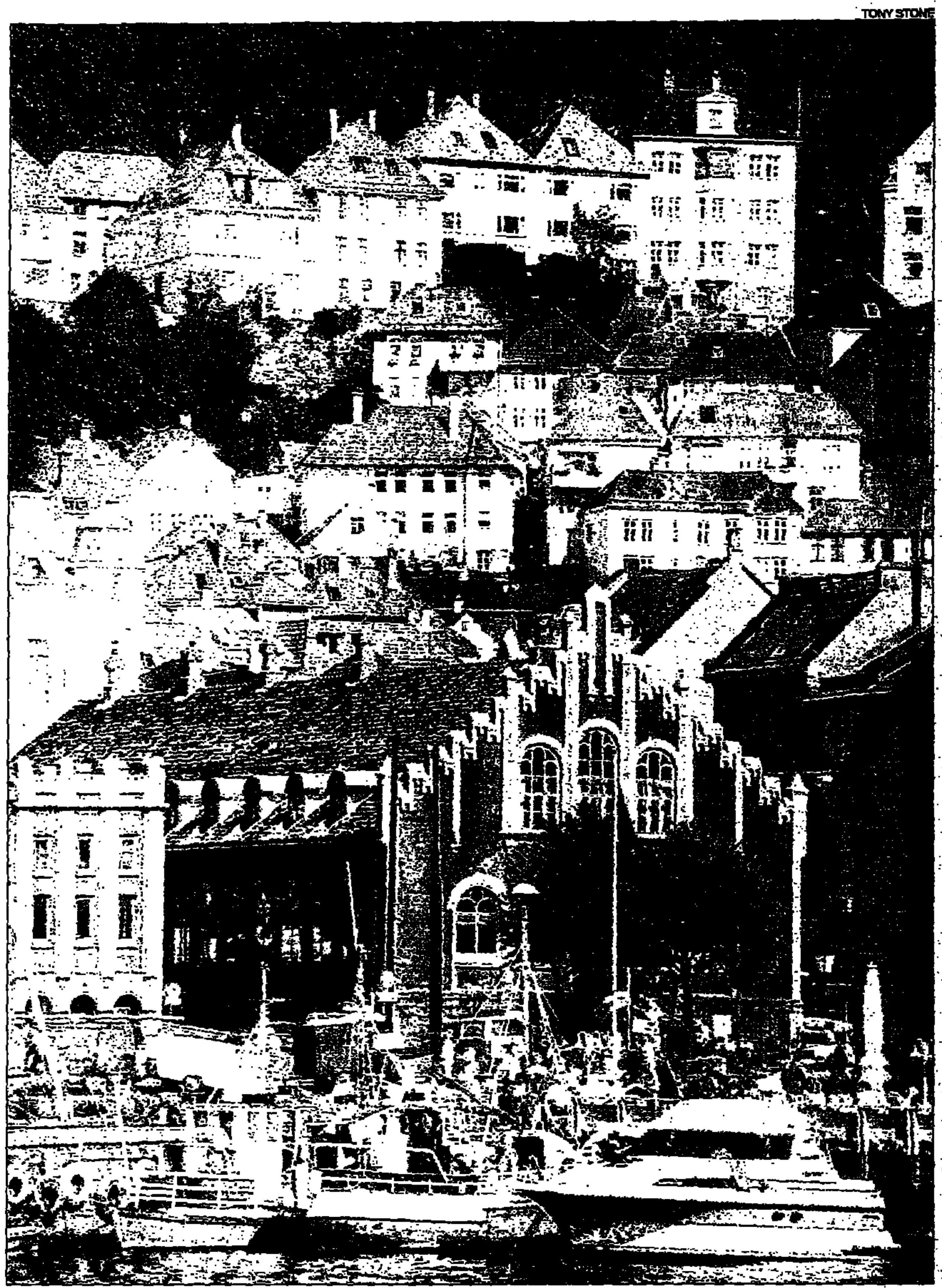
Norway: John Carter heads for the Arctic Circle, only to find Europe's northernmost point has moved . . .

JAMES BEDDING

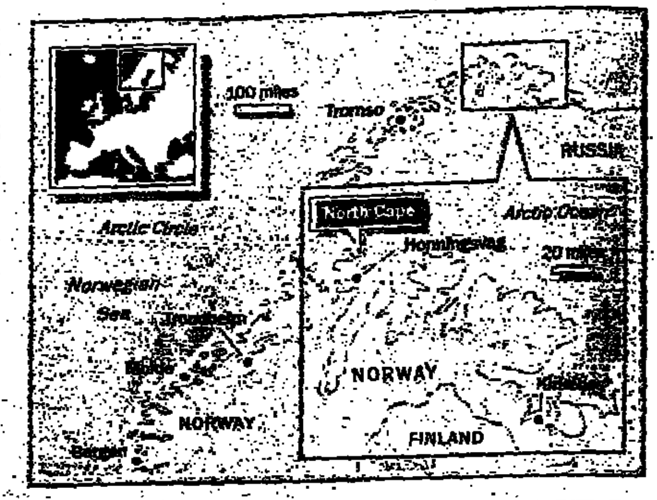


The *Kong Harald* seems too posh to be a working boat

TONY STONE



On the waterfront: Bergen, starting point for one of the world's most beautiful voyages up the coast of Norway



Sailing north to the sun

We left the ship at Honningsvag where the coaches were waiting to take us the few short miles to our destination. We drove across a stark landscape dotted with grazing reindeer and up to the plateau whose cliffs dropped sheer for more than a thousand feet into the foam-flecked grey waves that surged at their base.

Here was the souvenir shop and the restaurant and the museum, and the post office where cards receive a special cancellation mark. Here was where everyone posed for photographs against the Compass Globe monument standing boldly on the clifftop.

Here was evidence for friends at home that you had travelled to North Cape — "the northernmost point of Europe". The only fly in the Norwegian ointment is that North Cape is not the northernmost point of Europe. That distinction belongs to Knivskjellodden, a small headland a mile or so to the west. "Why do you pretend that this is the spot instead of taking people to the real northernmost point?" I asked our guide.

He thought for a moment. "I think maybe because this is where the shops and the restaurant have been built," he replied slowly. "And the toilets — they are very important."

It was one of those bizarre situations you never forget — battling to stay upright against the gale on a spot that has frequently, and correctly, been described as the edge of the world, arguing with a smiling Norwegian that the location of the toilets is not as important as being honest about the geography.

We had taken six days to reach Honningsvag, travelling on one of the 11 vessels that provide the Coastal Express service, or Hurtigruten, between Bergen and Kirkenes. The brochure claims this is the world's most beautiful sea voyage, and I would not argue, for the landscape is breathtaking.

It is a rugged coastline with deep fiords and cliffs that drop sheer to meet their reflections in mirror-calm waters. Rolling green hills and distant mountains brood darkly as the clouds gather behind them. It is a landscape on which man has made little impact, although now and then you see the brightly painted wooden houses of some coastal outpost that is too tiny to merit a stop by our ship, but which is served by smaller boats.

In summer it is a voyage through constant daylight, for this is the Land of the Midnight Sun. I was making the journey just after midsummer, so I was, strictly speaking, heading towards the land of the quarter-past-11 sun.

I mentioned, didn't I, that I sailed from Bergen? A ship leaves the city every evening at 10.30 with a punctuality you could set your watch by, and you don't have to be a genius to work out that a fleet of 11 ships can neatly operate an 11-day round-trip service with clockwork efficiency.

You can take the entire trip, up and back, in one go, and a few of our fellow passengers were doing just that. Others were leaving the ship at different ports, planning to continue the journey after as many days as they fancied — which is no problem with a regular daily sailing. We were a mixed bunch but there were only four other passengers from Britain.

"We don't get so many British on board because they associate cruises with sunshine," said one of the crew when I raised the point. "You think you can only enjoy a ship if you are in the Caribbean, or the eastern Mediterranean. You think of Norway as a land of snow and ice. But you are wrong. Look around and see how wrong." We were, at that moment, sailing under a cloudless sky over a calm sea. To starboard was the mainland, its green hills bathed in sunshine, its formidable rocky cliffs almost glowing as the sun began to drop towards a horizon that it would touch only briefly.

Ahead and to port were some low islands among which a group of fishing boats were sailing. Breathing in the crisp, clean air and enjoying the warmth of the sun, I agreed with the crewman: "They don't know what they're missing."

This, though, is much more than a cruise. The ships of the Coastal Express fleet are working boats carrying passengers and freight between Bergen and Kirkenes. Some of them are getting towards venerable, others are virtually brand new, and they vary in size and style and standard of service. However, you can check them out in the brochure, take advice from a travel agent and arrange your departure date so as to catch whichever of the fleet takes your fancy.

My choice was the *Kong Harald* (kong is Norwegian for king — which led to all sorts of problems when the film *King Kong* was shown there). Built in 1993, she carries about 500 passengers. Looking new and smart, she seems too posh to be a working boat, yet does not have the full range of facilities you would expect from a fully-fledged cruise ship. The food and service were both first class and she had comfortable bars and public rooms. But there was no organised entertainment and the passengers divided their time between eating and drinking, admiring the scenery and reading.

There is, of course, much more to this voyage than sailing past the scenery, and the trips ashore were generally worthwhile. Representatives from the tourist authorities meet the boat at each stop and offer sightseeing trips while the boat's cargo is loaded or unloaded.

Molde, our first port of call, enjoys a remarkably good summer climate, being south-facing and sheltered by mountains, and so earns its nickname "The Town of Roses". Flowers are everywhere, in baskets hanging from lamp-posts, decorating shop fronts and roundabouts and blooming magnificently in the parks.

At Trondheim we visited the medieval cathedral, housing Norway's crown jewels, and the museum of music history at nearby Ringve.

Tromso, the capital of Arctic Norway, is known for obscure reasons as The Paris of the North — and no one could tell me why, for it looks less like Paris than anywhere, with the possible exception of Kathmandu. Nevertheless, there is plenty to interest the cruise passengers who have four or five hours to spare, such as the Tromsdal church, consecrated in 1965, a stark white building with modern stained glass.

On board, the only vaguely touristic event happened when we crossed the Arctic Circle on the fourth day from Bergen. The captain and the purser had told me and my friends that an Arctic baptism ceremony took place for those who had never crossed the circle. As described, it seemed a pretty harmless jape, with lots of water and ice cubes poured down the necks of the unsuspecting victims.

"King Neptune does this," explained the captain gravely. "He comes on board especially." He paused, then said conspiratorially: "I let you into a secret. It is not King Neptune. We get somebody to dress up and do this."

My friends looked at each other. Then they all looked at me. Which is why, next day, I tramped into the main lounge wearing a false beard and tin crown, swathed in oilskins and carrying a trident in order to pour very cold water down the necks of assorted passengers.

The Italians squealed a lot, the elderly Americans endured it in silence, and the French were not good sports at all.

They only laughed when the purser poured a whole bucket of water over me.

FACT FILE

- John Carter travelled with Norwegian Coastal Voyages (0171-371 4011), which offers the "Voyage to the North" trip for £1,395 on the *Kong Harald*, or on one of the older ships in the fleet for £995, during September. The price includes return flights to Bergen, the ten-night voyage, internal flights and one night's accommodation before your return.
- The coastal voyage trip is also available through Scandinavian Travel Service (0171-559 6666).
- Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Scandinavian and Baltic Europe* (Lonely Planet, £11.99).
- The Norwegian Tourist Board (0171-839 6255) is at Charles House, 5 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4LR, and can send information about the Hurtigruten.

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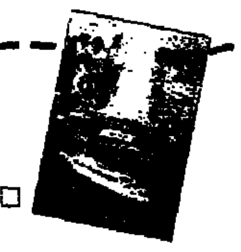

Kenya tourists upbeat

SCORES of travellers worried about the outbreak of violence in Mombasa have either been refunded or switched to other destinations. But for every cancellation to Kenya, another holidaymaker is willing to take a chance and travel, say operators to East Africa.

Hayes & Jarvis has reported 11 cancellations for its charter flight departing tomorrow from Manchester and Gatwick. But the company's product manager, Declan Morton, said spare seats on the 358-seater A300 had since been resold at a nominal discount.

"We are in the middle of peak season and have easily resold the seats."

Thomson had 14 cancellations on its flight last Tuesday, while Kuoni has reported two cancelling and others switching to Tanzania or Zanzibar. But Kenya is experiencing a surge in popularity from the UK, with the country's tourist office predicting 10 per cent growth from the UK to 110,000 visitors this year.

And tour operators say that while they are monitoring the situation in Kenya and following Foreign Office advice, demand is filling space left by those who cancel.

Jane Thornton, Kuoni's senior product manager said: "We are full until early September and still have bookings coming in for then. There have been occasions when we have even managed to pick up extra capacity because the Italian market has dropped off. The Italians seem to have been quicker to respond to the situation."

STEVE KEENAN

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Defeating the Tories spoilt a lot of travel plans, says **Martha Linden**, and late bookings are a headache

REUTER

For the Prime Minister, planning a family summer holiday in Tuscany and France, above, presented no problems — *he could rely on Sedgefield returning him on May 2*

Being elected is no holiday

It's France for Nigel Griffiths; home for Nick Brown

WHAT'S HOT AND WHAT'S NOT

IN:	OUT:
■ Tuscany	■ The Caribbean
■ Learning Welsh	■ Shooting holidays
■ UK holidays	■ Australia and long haul
■ *Charter flights*	■ *Concorde*
■ Taking the family	■ Holidays with friends
■ Answering your *mobile phone on the beach*	■ Leaving a fax number with your secretary

Martin Bell and Chris Smith have been spotted in Tuscany

Forget the divisions between *Old Labour and New, Government and Opposition. This* summer, the real parliamentary divide is between MPs who have hit the beach running *and these still scrambling* to book their holidays.

The parliamentary recess, from July 31 to October 27, might be the longest in recent memory, but a marathon election campaign and the breakneck pace of the Government's legislative programme have left many MPs too busy to book a holiday. The new intake are at a particular disadvantage, as they are also *preoccupied with finding* accommodation near Westminster *and settling into their jobs.*

Nick Brown, the Government *Chief Whip, has got to* know the new Labour intake *intimately. "I have not* arranged anything yet — except for a week's paperwork in Westminster and a week dealing with constituency business," he said. "A lot of the new MPs are in the same boat. I would guess that at least half have not made any travel arrangements."

For many, a further problem is that they simply did not expect to be elected. Some had *booked holidays before the* election on the assumption *they would still be in their old* jobs. In many cases, they have *had to cancel these breaks and* are finding it hard to book *anything* else.

Oona King, 29-year-old Labour MP for Bethnal Green, lost £800 when she had to cancel two package holidays. She and her husband, Italian film producer Tiberio Santomarco, had intended to head to India until they found the departure date coincided with her parliamentary selection meeting, five weeks before the general election. They then *booked a holiday in Eilat,* Israel, still not expecting her to be selected. *When she was,* that plan also bit the dust. The *couple are now planning* a modest fortnight on the Greek island of Patmos *next month.*

"We chose Patmos because we can get a cheap charter flight to Kos, and it is then just a two-hour ferry crossing to Patmos," said Ms King. "The great thing is that the hotel only costs £5 a night."

Steve Webb, who until the general election was Professor of Social Policy at Bath University, was forced to cancel a holiday in Wales, booked for July, when he unexpectedly won Northavon for the Liberal Democrats. "It did not seem too bright an idea to be going on holiday during the Budget, which took place within our *original holiday dates," he* said. "We stood to lose nearly £600 when *we had to cancel,* but fortunately we were able to rebook with the same company." He is now taking a fortnight's holiday in September near Cardigan.

Some of the new intake have found it so hard to let go of their pre-election jobs that they plan to go back to their old lives during the summer recess. Desmond Swayne, the new *Conservative* MP for New Forest West *and a Terri*torial Army Ma*jor, is heading for* Northumberland for a two-week TA camp in September. He and his family are not planning any holiday except a spot of "body boarding" — a form of surfing — in west Wales.

Perhaps the most extraordinary plan is that of Crawley's new Labour MP, Laura Moffatt, a former nurse, who intends to work shifts at Crawley Hospital during September *after a three-week holiday in* Florida with ten family *members this month.* "I am a trained nurse and I miss the work," she said. "This will give me a real understanding of what is going on in the NHS."

She is not the only one keen to score Brownie points with her political masters. Welsh MPs have been urged to stay at home and campaign for devolution, so Welsh Secretary Ron Davies and Welsh Office Ministers Peter Hain and Wyn Griffiths are doing just that. Welsh Labour MPs Rhodri and Julie Morgan are even caravanning through Wales to spread the devolution message. However, after the *referendum on September 18* they will escape to Greece.

For MPs who fought safe seats in the election, holiday *planning* has been a little easier. Many have been spotted in Tuscany, including Tony Blair (who has now moved on with his family to St Martin d'Oydes in France), Culture Minister Chris Smith, *and Leominster Tory Peter* Temple-Morris. Martin Bell, *the new* MP for Tatton, is also there. "I had thought of going to Croatia, but too many people will recognise me," he said.

"There has been an interesting change," said Keith Betton, head of corporate affairs at the Association of British Travel Agents. "When the Conservatives were in power they went off to Tuscany and France on cultural holidays, and Labour MPs were going off on long-haul trips to places like Australia.

"Now Labour is in government and has moved closer to the Conservatives politically — *at the same time as going on* similar holidays."

The popularity of European holidays with New Labour *may also be because MPs,* especially senior government figures, must be reasonably close to home in case a crisis arises and they need to fly back. Many are also packing powerful GSM mobile phones, which receive calls throughout much of Europe. Consumer Affairs Minister Nigel Griffiths took a mobile Nokia fax phone and an Ericsson mobile phone with him on his holiday to La Rochelle, in France. He kept one attached to his swimming trunks and received faxes while sitting on the beach.

Mr Brown doubted whether many others had gone this far. "I cannot see them tucking their pagers into their *swimming* trunks and putting them *on to vibrate* mode," he said. "*But the vast majority* of MPs, especially *the new* ones, have been very *enthusiastic* about keeping in touch."

Snap-happy Cherie Blair and children in Bologna

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It's official: summer hols are sold out

Members of Parliament are not the only ones finding it difficult to book a last-minute holiday. The rest of us are also having to hunt for bargains because there is very little left on travel agents' shelves.

The industry has finally hit the right balance between the number of holidays it can sell and the number of customers available. Holiday companies are still stung by the memory of summer 1995, when they grossly over-estimated de*mand and had to sell many* holidays at rock-bottom *prices. Since then, they have* reduced the number of sum*mer packages on sale.*

Keith Betton, at the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA), said another reason for the shortage this year was the dismal weather in Britain earlier this summer, which pushed up demand for foreign holidays.

"If you are still looking for a holiday and have not booked yet, then you will have to be very flexible and take what is left," he said. What is left includes Greece, which has suffered a drop in the number of foreign visitors after complaints about higher prices and falling standards. Countries *that are out of season in* our summer — such as Egypt, *which is extremely hot, and* the Caribbean, which can be *hot and humid* — are also a good bet for a last-minute bargain. *But there is little left* in Majorca and the Costa del Sol in Spain, the *most popular* destinations this summer for British holidaymakers, or in Turkey, where the cheap cost of living is proving a lure for nearly one million of us.

Some companies have even increased the price of last-minute holidays, rather than offering late bargains. Airtours, the country's second-biggest tour operator, has added £20 to the cost of holidays bought and taken this month. "Peak season holidays are now very thin on the ground," said Richard Carrick, marketing director of Airtours. "It is almost impossible to find anything for next week, although there is some availability from the second week of September on, once the school holidays are over."

Sue Ockwell, for the Association of Independent Tour Operators, said those who can wait *until* September or October to take their breaks (like *our MPs*), will find far greater choice. "If you go to Greece in *late September you will find* there is absolutely glorious weather," *she said.* "France, after August, is nice and empty, and if you are thinking of seeing any of the wonderful sights in southern Spain, September and October are far more pleasant than August."

There is one final piece of bad news for those MPs who have had to cancel their holidays: any claim they make on the cancellation section of their travel insurance policy is unlikely to succeed. The Association of British Insurers explained that if you book a holiday and then lose your job unexpectedly, your travel insurance policy will probably pay out if you then cancel the trip. "But losing or winning an election is an event that you can foresee, not a sudden, *unexpected occurrence, so the* insurer will probably not pay out," *a spokesman said.*

CATH URQUHART

LATE BREAKS

IF YOU want to join your MP on holiday, here's where to go:

■ **Tuscany: A family of** ***four in an apartment at the*** **Fattoria Canale villa in Tuscany pay £1,786 for a week's self-catering, leaving Gatwick on August 30. Who you might bump into: Martin Bell;** ***Chris Smith.***

■ **The Dordogne: A week in a converted windmill, through Best of France, £405 per couple, including Dover-Calais ferry crossings. Who you** ***might bump into:*** **Joan Ruddock, Minister for Women.**

■ **Majorca: Cosmos has two weeks' self-catering, from Gatwick on September 1, for £309. Who** ***you might bump into:*** **David Blunkett, Education and Employment Secretary.**

IF YOU would prefer not to find politicians on the next sunbed, try these:

■ **Rave it up in Ibiza for 14 nights with Thomson, leaving Gatwick on August 30, for £331 per person,** ***self-catering.***

■ **Disneyworld offers a** ***three-week fly-drive*** **holiday based in Orlando, leaving Manchester on August 30, with Thomson, for £299 per person.**

■ **Soak up the sun with** ***two weeks' self-catering in*** **the Algarve with Cosmos, flying from Birmingham on August 31, for £348 per person.**

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Holidays are very thin on the ground for British tourists

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هكذا من الأصل

Crete and Paxos: Visit the Greek islands out of season and the warm hospitality will make you reluctant to leave

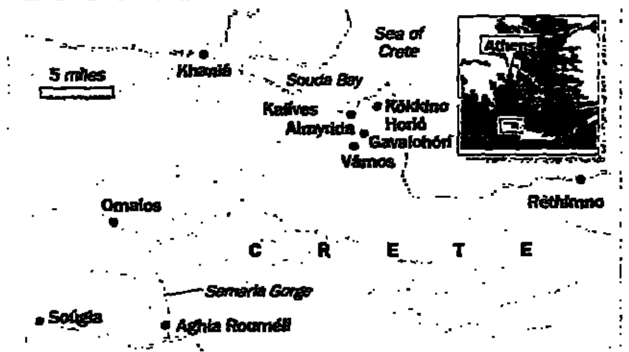
TONY STONE

Fish on sale at the weekly market in Chania, where you can also buy oranges and tomatoes, bunches of herbs and camomile flowers and bottles of raki a "lit bit stroge"

And Elena sends her love

Four weeks after we got back from our holiday in Crete, a postcard dropped through the door. On the front were a bunch of flowers and the words "I love you"; on the back, a Greek stamp. What was this? Had my wife been indulging in a secret holiday romance? But no — the card was for our almost-two-year-old, Adam, and it was signed "Kisses, Elena".

We had thought long and hard about where to take a toddler on holiday. We had wanted to fly — a last chance before his second birthday, after which you have to pay for a seat — but a long journey with a child on your lap would be too wearing. He would like a beach; we wanted to walk. It had to be somewhere which would be warm in May, where we could avoid the crowds and where we could eat out at night.



A year earlier we had all enjoyed Paxos, so we settled on a return to Greece — only one of the larger islands with direct flights. Crete sounded good, so we went to the specialist Simply Crete and ended up in Almeritha, in the less developed western half of the island.

Almeritha, on the edge of the Vamos peninsula looking out across Souda Bay, is perfect for families with small children. A long, gently shelving beach of shallow water leads around from the fishing harbour to a smaller beach backed by tamarisks and a whitewashed shrine. Half a dozen tavernas lean over the water and in any one of them you can dine well on salad, an assortment of starters, grilled fresh fish and wine — plus the inevitable glass of raki from the owner — for £15 for two.

There are two shops, a kiosk and a handful of bars — enough for the village to be self-contained but not enough for it to feel spoilt. The baker, fishmonger and greengrocer bring their produce around by truck, with old-fashioned scales hanging from the back. A five-minute taxi ride — or a pleasant two-mile walk along the coast — leads to the larger resort of Kalives, where you can buy fresh olive bread and yesterday's English papers.

Staying in a small village, Adam became our passport to the community. Neighbours gave him lemons from the orchard and flowers from the garden; waiters presented him with fruit, biscuits and drinks. Children came round to our apartment to read his books and share his puzzles; all verbal barriers seemed to disappear in the universal language of childhood.

Then there was Elena. She had a café on the seafront, where the taxi drivers would sip ouzo between jobs and we would take our evening aperitifs. As we nibbled our meze, Adam and Elena made friends. Each day he would emerge from the kitchen, beaming and clutching his latest gift. On the day we left, presents and addresses were exchanged, tears were shed, and Elena promised to write. Hence the postcard. If you are reading this, Elena, Adam loves you too.

We spent our mornings walking on old mule tracks between the White Mountains (still snow-clad in May) and the sea. Poppies grew beneath silvery olive trees and the hedges sparkled with crown daisies and purple vetch.

One day we walked to Gavalachori, where an old Venetian-Turkish cottage has been turned into a village museum, full of local artefacts, household goods, costumes and musical instruments. Another day we climbed to the hilltop hamlet of Kokkino Horio, where parts of *Zorba the Greek* were filmed. Donkeys still work the fields and in the village we drank coffee with the old men who sit underneath the vines, for all the world as if the film crew were still there attempting to capture a timeless Greek scene.

CRETE FACT FILE

- Tony Kelly and his family travelled with Simply Crete (0181-994 4462), which offers deals during October, when the weather — and the sea — are still warm.
- The one-bedroom Armonia apartment in Almeritha, where the Kellys stayed, costs £327 per person per week, based on four sharing, or £423 for two weeks, based on two sharing. Prices are based on flights from Gatwick to Chania; flights from Manchester cost £25 extra per person.
- Simply Crete also offers rooms at the Rodon Hotel in Chania, where B&B costs £349 per person for one week, based on two sharing, flying from Gatwick.
The two-bedroom Lefteris Villa at Stavros costs £471 per person for two weeks, based on four sharing, including car hire and flights from Gatwick.
Simply Crete makes a flat charge of £30 for children under two.
- Car hire can be booked through Simply Crete from £145 a week, or arranged locally in Almeritha for about £20 a day.
- Other Crete specialists include Pure Crete (0181-760 0879) and Freelance Holidays (01789 297705).
- Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Zorba the Greek*, by Nikos Kazantzakis (Faber and Faber, £5.99). *Crete* (Rough Guides, £8.99).

TONY KELLY

Tony Kelly and Adam, passport to the community

On Saturday we took the bus to Chania, Crete's second city, to explore the weekly market — mounds of oranges and tomatoes, heaps of aubergines and courgettes, bunches of herbs and camomile flowers, bottles of raki which came with a health warning: "it lit bit stroge".

Behind the covered market, shops in "Leather Alley" sold sandals for £5 and knee-length shepherds' boots for £50. We had lunch at Pizza Hot (sic) beside the Venetian harbour, lined with trendy cafés where students played backgammon and sipped iced coffee while listening to loud rock music. A horse-and-carriage ride around the harbour (£7 for the family) was tremendous fun and the sort of thing you would be too embarrassed to do without a child.

The most memorable day trip was to the Samaria Gorge, Europe's longest, which drops 4,000 feet in just ten miles from the Omalos plateau to the Libyan Sea. A taxi left us in Chania at dawn, as the fishing boats set sail and the last revellers stumbled out of the bars.

By 8.30am the tour bus had dropped us at the top of the gorge, just beneath the snow line. The walk led down through a dozen different ecosystems with dramatically changing landscapes — now lush, now barren, now narrow, now wide, fields of asphodel and dragon arum, shady woods full of flowering thyme. We filled our bottles with cool water from mountain springs.

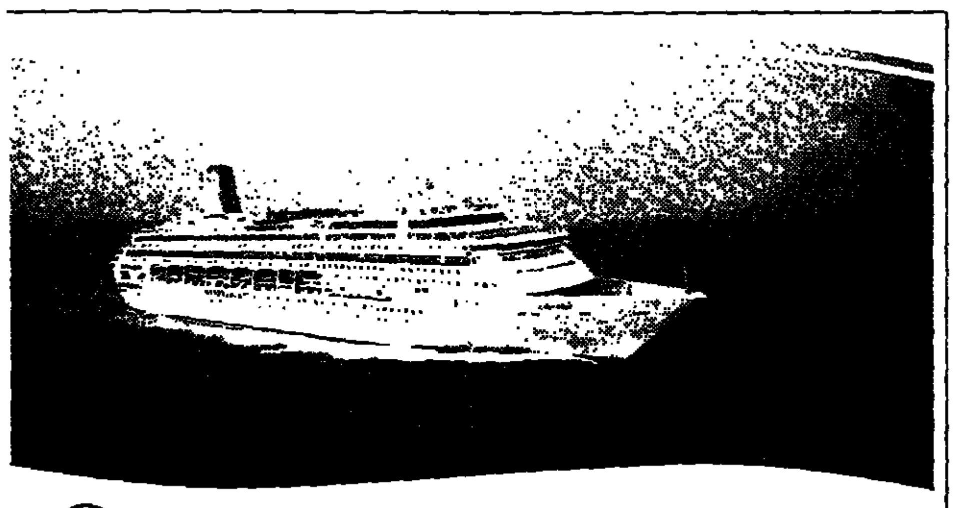
Eventually we reached a narrow pass where cliffs 1,000 feet high meet across a stream just a few feet wide. Six hours of steep descent, trying to hold your balance on slippery stepping-stones with 30lb of toddler on your back, is not everyone's idea of fun, but I felt exhilarated.

The gorge ends at Ayia Roumeli, where a boat took us to Souyia and the bus journey back to Almeritha.

There we spent our mornings in the olive groves and our afternoons on the beach, and went to cafés and tavernas where we felt we were not just tourists but friends.

And all because of a 21-month-old child.

TONY KELLY



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The rugged limestone cliffs of Paxos's west coast

Honeyed isle of olives and Pan's people

There are more than a quarter of a million olive trees on Paxos. Edward Lear, who sailed over from neighbouring Corfu in 1863, described the trees as "straggling and long-armed". Victorian painters must have loved the island; a clear light shines on every flower, describing it in sharp detail, every stalk has its shadow.

We stayed on the edge of the village of Loggos in a large old house with buttermilk walls, petrol-blue shutters and, on the upper floor, an ornate wrought-iron balcony. A palm tree cast its shade like a giant parasol and an orange tree appeared to be hung with lanterns.

Large, ribbed urns, to collect rainwater, stand outside most houses. Water is scarce on the island. There is one unreliable stream and a few springs. Until the early years of the 19th century, water was shipped over from the mainland, drawn from brackish wells, or gathered in rock cisterns. Later, during French (and then British) rule, the reservoirs were constructed.

The baker makes rough, sour bread and there is an excellent, slightly granular local honey. The food in the tavernas was always good: a variety of fish, marinaded in olive oil, lemon and oregano, grilled over olive wood and vine clippings; hearty stews such as *stifado*, rich and sweet with onions; diamonds of *ravani* (almond and honey cake), with coffee.

A path to the windmill was partially cobbled, smooth pebbles pressed into the clay and bounded by pale drystone walls. All around us grew prickly pear cacti and Spanish broom, its flowers bursting like yellow flames. Blue carpenter bees flew around drunkenly, bumping into things.

From the windmill we looked down over the harbour. Overgrown terraces stumbled towards the sea, blue heather and myrtle interrupted by cyprus trees. My son gathered spent cartridges, each a different colour. In earlier times, the islanders caught migratory doves by standing on roofs and waving nets. Now they blast them at close range.

Loggos is on the eastern side of Paxos. The western side is more rugged, less populated, its coastline of limestone cliffs punctuated with gaping caverns and lonely pillars.

We wanted to look at the Tripitos arch, which meant catching the bus (a chancey arrangement, because it can arrive and leave half an hour earlier than scheduled) to Zenebisatika. From there, the walk to the cliffs was easy, but we kept stopping to look at the wild flowers around our feet: asphodels, Illyrian gladioli, creamy-white cuckoo-pint, dark-leafed mint, lambs tongues, love in the mist, scarlet and blue pimpernels.

FACT FILE

- The author travelled to Paxos with Corfu à la Carte (01635 201140). Four people sharing the self-catering Villa Constantina for a week in September would pay from £349 each, including return flights to Corfu and ferry transfer to Loggos. For children aged two to 16, there is a £30 discount.
- Other tour operators to Paxos include Simply Ionian (0181-995 1121) and CV Travel (0171-581 0851).
- Further information from the Greek National Tourist Organisation, 4 Conduit Street, London W1 (0171-734 5997).
- Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Stars over Paxos*, by John Gill (Pavilion, £12.99); *Landscapes of Paxos*, (Sunflower Books, £6.50).

Gradually, the landscape changed from olive groves to open hillside. We had a strong sense of the ancient world, as if the Argo might sail past at any moment on its way to Ithaca.

There is an intriguing legend about Paxos. One night in the 1st century AD, Thamus the Egyptian, the pilot of a passing ship, heard a loud voice calling from the cliffs, telling him that Pan was dead and urging him to relay the information to the mainland. Christians believe that the announcement was made on the same night as the Crucifixion and symbolises the passing of the old religion.

If Pan died that night, lesser satyrs have survived in the island's folklore. Known as *kallikanzaros*, they are pixie-like creatures with cloven hoofs and pointed ears. Their chief occupation is making mischief, leaving doors unlocked and turning milk sour.

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Manchester: music and a city makeover have spawned a bustling café society, says **York Membery**

Why you should be here now...

KEVIN CUMMINS

Noel and Liam Gallagher of Oasis have helped to put Manchester back on the map — but there is much more to celebrate than the music scene as the city strives to make the most of its heritage

FACT FILE

- York Membery *travelled with* Virgin Trains. Return *tickets from* London *to* Manchester cost *from* £17.50 (pre-booked and travelling after 11am). Bookings: 0345 222333.
- *Accommodation:* The author was a guest of the Crowne Plaza Midland Hotel (0161-236 3333), which has a special weekend rate of £99 a night for couples. For budget accommodation, try the Castlefield YHA (0161-839 9960).
- For further details about Manchester, ring the Information Centre (0161-234 3157) or the 24-hour premium rate phone guide (0891 715533). For *Poptastic* tour information, ring *0161-872 3013*.

SIX HAPPENING PLACES TO BE SEEN

- Boardwalk, Little Peter Street (0161-228 3555) — the club where Oasis first performed.
- Sankeys Soap, Jersey Street (0161-950 4230) — techno club in a former soap factory.
- Metz, 3 Brazil Street (0161-237 9852) — a restaurant serving a modern East European-based cuisine.
- Mash & Air, Chorlton Street (0161-661 1111) — stylish restaurant-bar in a converted mill.
- Barca, Duke Street, Castlefield (0161-839 7099) — restaurant-bar part-owned by Simply Red's Mick Hucknall.
- Prague Five, Chorlton Street (0161-236 9033) — a popular late-night bar.

Thirty odd years ago, the Beatles made Liverpool hip. Now it's Manchester's turn to bask in the reflected glory of a world-beating band — in this case, Oasis, whose latest album, *Be Here Now*, has just been released.

The five-piece group is Manchester's best-known export of the Nineties — and in a curious parallel, the city itself is enjoying a renaissance.

Ashamed as I am to admit it, I'm one of those sad southerners who has been north of Watford only a handful of times — and when I have, it has been to visit such places as Stratford-upon-Avon or Scotland. Like many southerners, I associated Manchester with grey skies, a drab industrial landscape and urban decay. In fact, it has much to offer the visitor, young or old.

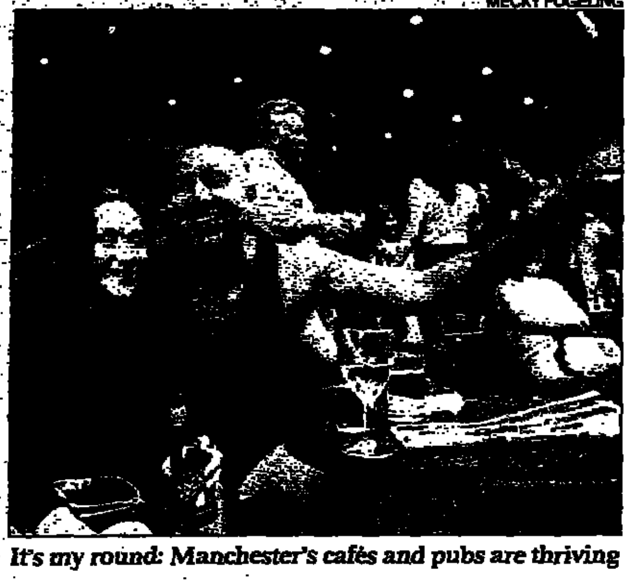
Most teenagers are familiar with the city's vibrant youth culture and thriving club scene — as befits somewhere that has spawned as diverse a collection of musical talents as the Happy Mondays and M People, not to mention the Stone Roses, the Smiths, and, of course, Oasis. But there's no shortage of young pretenders to Oasis's throne, with 6,000 young bands in the area. Who knows, you could catch the new Oasis in action at a bar such as Night & Day, which showcases three unsigned acts a night?

This burgeoning youth culture has been accompanied by an equally dramatic transformation of formerly run-down inner-city areas into entertainment centres, which make full use of the attractive canal-side locations and handsome Victorian buildings to create a sort of Amsterdam of the North. The two places that best exemplify the exciting new Manchester arising from the ruins of the old are the so-called Gay Village around Canal Street, and Castlefield.

While the pink pound has helped to finance the transformation of the Canal Street area into a buzzing social spot, it is not overtly gay. If anything, heterosexuals outnumber homosexuals. Pubs, clubs, and stylish new restaurants such as Mash & Air — the creation of entrepreneur Oliver Peyton — and Mets line the Rochdale Canal and it is difficult to believe you are in the Manchester of popular myth when you're dining out on a balmy summer's night.

About 15 minutes walk south along the waterway, you reach Castlefield, until a few years ago a wasteland of railway viaducts. Now the area, where the River Medlock meets the Bridgewater and Rochdale canals, has been spruced up and is home to trendy restaurant-bars such as Barca, part-owned by Simply Red star Mick Hucknall and a popular late-night haunt with Manchester United players. (However, be warned: autograph hunters are unwelcome.) Another place where you can rub shoulders with celebrities is the nearby Boardwalk, the club where Oasis made their stage debut minus Noel Gallagher — six years ago this month.

MECKY FÖGELING



It's my round: Manchester's cafés and pubs are thriving

Die-hard Oasis fans from as far afield as Japan now visit Manchester to follow the Oasis trail — with Blue Badge guide Jonathan Schofield organising a Poptastic tour of the city, which takes in the Burnage council estate where Liam and Noel grew up. Despite being portrayed in the tabloids as an inner-city slum, it is surprisingly leafy, and the Gallagher residence, with its freshly painted front door and neat wooden fence, is a model of suburban respectability. The stars' mother, Peggy, has even been known to invite fans in for cups of tea.

For all the talk of youth culture, Manchester's Victorian legacy is still very much in evidence. It's a mixed legacy. Some parts of the city — particularly in the east — are still characterised by the sort of urban deprivation that is rarely found in southern England. But the flip side to its years as an industrial dynamo, which saw it dubbed Cottonopolis, is that Manchester is home to one of the greatest concentrations of Victorian and Edwardian architecture in Britain.

Pride of place must go to the Victorian Gothic masterpiece which is Manchester Town Hall. This magnificent building with its Big Ben-style clock tower, which opened in 1877, was designed by Alfred Waterhouse. Architecturally, it is the nearest thing to a Parliament of the North — a testament to the city's wealth and belief that it was every bit the equal of London. The Great Hall inside, with its hammer-beam roof and Ford Madox Brown paintings, is open during the week and is well worth seeing.

Another fine example of modern Gothic architecture is the John Rylands Library in Deansgate, dating back to the 1890s, which houses one of the country's most important collections of rare books and manuscripts.

> 'Pubs, clubs and many stylish new eateries line the Rochdale Canal'

Granted, the city might now be a hotch-potch of architectural styles ranging from the Gothic Victorian splendour of its older buildings to postwar abominations such as the Arndale Centre to the £42 million post-modern Bridgewater Hall, the stunning new home of the Halle Orchestra. But for every abomination, there is a gem waiting to be discovered, be it the Palace Hotel or the Methodist chapel in St Mary's Gate, which is now home to a Sticky Fingers restaurant.

What's more, the lessons of the past have been learnt and the great mills and warehouses of yesteryear are now being turned into apartments or businesses rather than torn down.

Manchester is also the perfect base from which to explore the North West. Salford Art Gallery, which houses the world's foremost collection of Lowry paintings, is on its doorstep. Liverpool, with its Beatles heritage, famed Mersey Ferry and Victorian architecture, is little over 30 miles to the west. And the beautiful Peak District is a stone's throw to the east.

The heart of Manchester may have been ripped out by last year's IRA bomb, but the city is fighting back. It knows it can never be London, but its canals, architecture and Metrolink tram service help to give it a distinctive, almost Continental feel. There's a new air of optimism about the place, which is confident that its future will be as great as its past. The new Oasis album *Be Here Now* may have been inspired by a John Lennon quip, but it could just as well be a rallying cry for the Manchester of the Nineties.

PETER SCHOLEY

Manchester Town Hall with its Big Ben-style tower

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 23

CANDENT
(b) At a white heat, glowing with heat. From the Latin *candēre* to be white, to glow. "The candent hearth, the ruddy lurid row/ Of smiths."

CRINKUM-CRANKUM
(b) A word applied playfully to anything full of twists and turns, or intricately and fancifully elaborated. *Cf. gimcrack* and *knick-knack*. A euphemism from *crinkum* a venereal disease. "Here's none of your straight lines here — but all taste — zigzag — crinkum-crankum — in and out."

CAPITLE
(a) A chapter of a book (or the like). A chapter or a capital city. From the Latin *capitulum* a little head, the diminutive of *caput* a head. "Bochas gan direct his stile/ To write the story."

CUISH
(c) Or *cuisse*. Armour for protecting the front part of the thighs. In the singular, a thigh-piece. Old French from the Latin *coxa* a hip. Walter Scott, *Lord of the Isles*, 1814: "Helm, cuish, and breastplate stream'd with gore."

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See the Taj Mahal set in formal gardens on the River Jumna, which was begun in 1630 by the Emperor Shah Jahan for his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal. The building is of white marble and has pietra-dura inlay work of extraordinary delicacy. Later continue to the Red Fort, a complete Moghul city in itself, built by Akbar and enclosed by turreted, red sandstone walls and see its many courtyards and marble halls.

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AROUND THE WORLD: A WEEKEND GUIDE

JILL CRAWSHAW'S TRAVEL TIPS

Live like a Shaker

THE newly restored Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill in Kentucky makes it possible for visitors to sample a taste of the old Shaker lifestyle and examine the sect's sturdy back-to-basics furniture, now so fashionable.

In the 1830s, 500 members of the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing lived in the village. Known as "Shakers" due to their trembling during their devotional dance, they believed in a simple, hard-working life of celibacy, adopting orphans to carry on their beliefs.

Rooms at the village cost £46 per night and Premier Holidays (01787 884031) can offer stays there on tailor-made self-drive holidays to the southern states. A ten-day package including flights, car hire and accommodation in Kentucky, Nashville and Memphis costs £745 per person.

Treasure trove

THERE is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view the treasures of Mount Athos during a ten-day Macedonia Tour organised by Greek specialist Filoxenia (01422 375999). The tour in mid-September will be accompanied by archaeologist Mike Curtis.

To mark Thessaloniki's tenure as European Capital for Culture, the Byzantine Museum is displaying the priceless icons, frescoes and manuscripts which have not left Mount Athos for nearly a thousand years. The holy mountain is still occupied by monks and is forbidden territory to women. The tour, which costs £820 per person B&B, also takes in Thessaloniki, Kavala, Philippi, Mount Olympos, Pella and the island of Thassos.

Priceless artefacts from Mount Athos on view in Thessaloniki

Welsh history

THE Pennant family at Penrhyn Castle, near Bangor in Wales, developed their estate with profits from sugar and Welsh slate, their vast 19th-century neo-Norman castle a statement of their wealth and the almost feudal power they wielded over the community. Local reaction to the family and its beneficence has been ambiguous ever since.

The Yorke family at nearby Erdigg adopted a different outlook and a closer relationship with their servants; they actually gave them rooms with views over the gardens — almost unheard of in their day. Such *Upstairs, Downstairs* attitudes are the subject of a "One Era, Two Attitudes?" weekend (September 19-21), run by the National Trust and the Historical Association (0171-735 3901) at Bangor University, for £160. Day visits to Penrhyn are also available.

Clinton-on-sea

WHILE Tony Blair and family have received a warm reception during their holiday in Italy and France (see page 17), not all New Englanders are ecstatic about the brouhaha surrounding President Bill Clinton's holiday in Martha's Vineyard off Cape Cod, or his stopover at Block Island, 12 miles off Rhode Island.

Residents and regular summer visitors to Martha's Vineyard are still sensitive about the notorious Kennedy scandal at Chappaquiddick, although it was 30 years ago, and do not welcome any more security men, police and photographers. Block Island, just seven miles by seven, is home to 150 bird species and 850 residents who jealously preserve its simple life and green tourism. In any case, Mr Clinton, being a Democrat, is not the New Englanders' ideal cup of clam chowder — most prefer the Republican George Bush.

BOULOGNE, now bypassed by most cross-Channel traffic, is a much more attractive port than Calais. For the rest of this year it can be visited on a day trip, costing £18 for two people, from 15 railway stations in London and the South East. The offer is from Hoverspeed (0990 240241), using its 55-minute SeaCat service from Folkestone to Boulogne.

AMERICAN MUSEUM, BATH

Shaker women, photographed in 1895. They believed in a hard-working, celibate life and adopted orphans to carry on their beliefs

African art

ONE of the world's largest collection of rock paintings — 3,000 or so vivid bird, seal and spoor illustrations — is scattered around the rocks at Twyfelfontein in Namibia. A visit there is included in the itinerary of a tour in October organised by culture specialist Prospect (0181-995 2151).

Also included on the tour is the White Lady in the Brandenberg foothills, the best-known example of Namibia's rock art, perhaps more famous for her interpretation than for her aesthetic appeal. She was christened the White Lady by one Abbé Breuil who believed her to be of European origin; others are sure she is a young African daubed in white for a traditional ceremony.

The tour stays well off the Namibian tourist track, exploring newly discovered sites in the Erongo Mountains, parts of the Etosha Game Reserve not yet open to the public, Himbaland, home to the nomadic Himba tribe, and the remote Kaokoland. The price of the tour is £2,250 including food, accommodation, tips and flights.

Snow tours

TWENTY-SIX small independent ski companies, offering resorts ranging from Antillanca in Chile and Chacaltaya in Bolivia to Zuoz and Zinal in Switzerland, are listed in the new *Ski Directory* from the Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO), available free from 0181-607 9080.

Also included are firms offering polar bear and whale watching, dog-sledding and winter journeys in the Arctic and summer skiing in the Andes, as well as beginners' and special family holidays.

Many AITO firms are direct-sell only; all are bonded for financial protection.

SALZBURG Old City has been declared a World Heritage Site by Unesco — one of 506 sites in 105 countries. The official handover of the certificate will take place during Salzburg's Old City Festival on September 11 and 12. The Schonbrunn Palace in Vienna has also been declared a World Heritage Site.

Scotch fiesta

IN October, Edinburgh will host a festival somewhat less cerebral than the fiesta currently taking place there. The first Edinburgh and Speyside Whisky Festival will feature blend-your-own-whisky sessions, whisky master classes, celebrity cookery demos, "illicit still walks", a whisky nosing competition, ceilidhs and tastings.

Festival visitors will be introduced to Gaelic whiskies "to taste unchilfiltered whisky ... that is, real whisky, as it used to be". More details from the International Scotch Whisky Festival Office (0131-556 7441).

Talk Turkey

A MILLION holidaymakers from Britain will have visited Turkey this year, 16 per cent more than last summer. There will be even more in 1998, according to Sunworld (0990 550440), particularly in Antalya, Belek and the Bodrum peninsula.

Turkey's pride and joy, the new purpose-built resort of Belek, is aimed at those who want quality hotel complexes with pools, children's clubs, activities, golf — and almost no Turkish atmosphere. A week's half-board next summer will cost £299-£539 per person with Sunworld.

The airport at Bodrum is expected to be fully open for next season. At present most passengers fly into Dalaman, then face a three to four-hour bus transfer to Bodrum.

POCKET-SIZED Belize, which was British Honduras until 1981, is a new destination for 1998 from Kuoni (01233 211606). It is 70 per cent covered by forests, boasts fine Mayan remains and has an enlightened environmental policy. A week's Discovery Tour, combined with either Costa Rica or a week in a Mexican beach resort, will cost from about £1,099 per person.

The Times holiday jumbo crossword

ACROSS

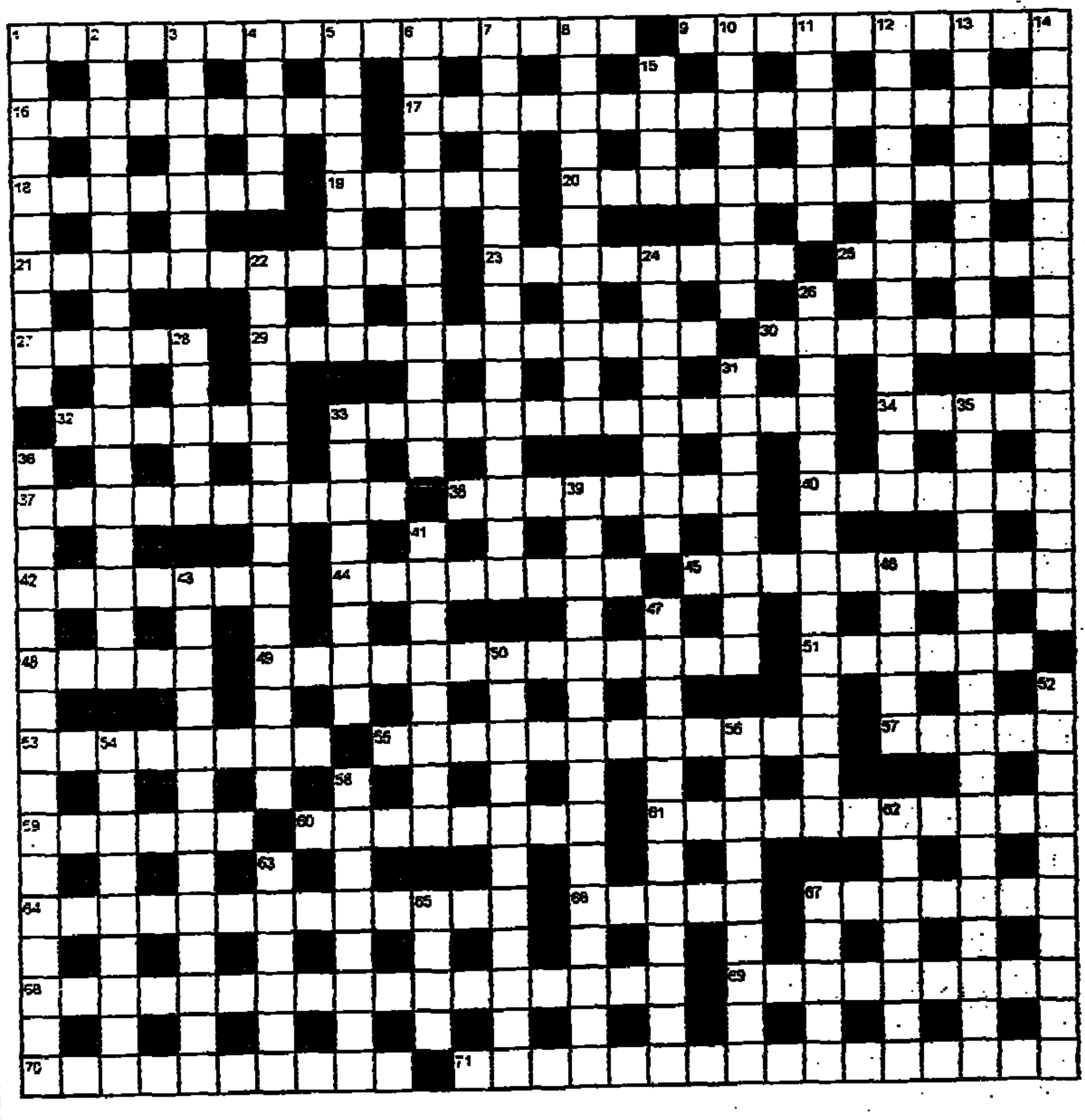
1 Milton's work is included in review, a medley of English reading (8,8)
9 Frolicking like a blithe spirit? (10)
16 Put in again to collect bill (9)
17 Dances around because it's a comic performance (7,3,7)
18 Unfortunately I can exercise without achieving suppleness (7)
19 Very old festive occasion — outsiders not admitted (5)
20 Body made more attractive by intake of juice (13)
21 Unsentimental view about soldier with respect to local loyalties (11)
23 In which all aboard were shipmates (5,3)
25 Plant opening in mild summer (6)
27 Punjabi has eventually retired to address in India (5)
29 Ten Irish died at sea, cut off (12)
30 Begin to take in thread in operation (6,2)
32 Shakespearean character actors in Othello, taking part (6)
33 Children caught playing this game get smacked (8,5)
34 At home with mathematical task, to put it briefly (2,3)
37 Censured by former unit and discharged (10)
38 Going away in old hat with fringe (8)
40 River bore is most mysterious (7)
42 Powerful shocks rocking Sumatra (7)
44 The UN had ordered recruit from another company (4-4)
45 Small but generous contribution of champagne to strike (6,4)
48 Do so, for example, for some money (5)
49 Enthusiasts for this activity rising to record numbers? (5-8)
51 Liable to change (6)
53 Stuck with boring task inside (8)
55 Remembered French as spoken by Monsieur (12)
57 Spanish drink port? Yes, in another country (5)
59 Feverish until cold disappeared, then went out (6)
60 Food in cans required metal fasteners (3-5)
61 High-flyers getting inflationary rises (11)
64 Improved standard in higher examination (8,5)
66 One who has no head for tranquilliser (5)
67 Shaw's major title role (7)
68 Book produced by Leo's company, with Jude newly put in charge (5,3,9)
69 How spineless creatures control their feelings, and can settle trouble (9)
70 Those who have played around, say, find themselves in a hole here (10)
71 In which tides are near mean, however varying (13,3)

DOWN

1 Change the wording — orders appear rash (10)
2 Get hard with recitation when there's disorder, doing this (7,3,4,3)
3 Girl leading horse to browse (3,4)
4 Scandalous photo in extremely smutty case (5)
5 Old fighter dependent on network for his living (9)
6 Hunted animals on promontory without any joie de vivre (12)
7 In short, this is it! (7,8)
8 Detailed account of mountaineer's disaster (11)
10 They may get thumbs down for getting tight (8)
11 Stupid fellow's not started puzzle (6)
12 Like judge of underworld, heard somehow about a fine chap put inside (13)
13 Extinct creature supplying island with fertiliser to put on (9)
14 This dam's achieved sustained generational production (5-11)
15 Sign to remove piece from model engine (4)
22 Cases heard (5,9)
24 Put one's view firmly and succeeded getting point over (5,3)
26 Fellow artist initially idly drew ducks and crow (4-1-6-3)
28 Colour party in US includes mounted soldier (5)
31 Fauntleroy, say, using line and new rod to fish (8)
33 A couple of birds finally found landing-place (4-4)
35 They help Old Bill to reveal unusual swindle with racehorses (7,10)
36 Background article on former Liberal establishing a pattern (7,2,7)
39 Dictatorial railway regulator organised minibus lines, too (6,9)
41 Artist put on one new layer of paint as protective cover (8)
43 As a rule, it's far from satisfactory (13)
46 It's cool on the wagon (5)
47 Enter zone in turmoil about black oily compound (12)
50 Note craze between rivers for fruit-growing (11)
52 Mr Dorrit was indebted for his time here (10)
54 Herb, endlessly striving for superiority, is pestering (9)
56 Open-minded type giving time to one side first, then to the other (9)
58 Island with very small population (8)
62 Detached state of individual vehicle in rainstorm (7)
63 Intermediary's attempt to contact the other side (6)
65 Struggle with survey (4)
67 African republic's game opponents kept in store (5)

TEST YOUR WORD POWER IN OUR CROSSWORD COMPETITION

Prizes of £100 will be given for the first six correct solutions opened on Monday, September 8, 1997. Entries should be sent to: August Jumbo Crossword, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The winner and solution will be published in *Weekend* on Saturday, September 13



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Times Two August Bank Holiday Crossword

There are no prizes for this crossword. The answers will be published on Monday.

ACROSS

1 Finest clothes (4,3,3,6)
9 Wander aimlessly (5,5); boisterous (10)
16 Dilapidation (9)
17 I shan't say how I know (1,6,4,4,2)
18 Make smarter; (wind) get up (7)
19 Passage through seats (5)
20 Passive acceptance (3-10)
21 Reminding note (4-7)
23 Assess (8)
25 Associate (with) (6)
27 Gatehouse; deposit (5)
29 Make bad news palatable (5,3,4)
30 Follow tourist trail (8)
32 Jap. hostess (6)
33 Girlfriend of hoodlum (9,4)
34 Plinth; *close (anag.)* (5)
37 Browbeat (10)
38 Wooden packing case (3-5)
40 Interrupt, upset (7)
42 Arcade game (7)
44 Carry on (business) (8)
45 (Boat) capsize (4,6)
48 Unconcealed (5)
49 D H Lawrence 43-ish novel (4,3,6)
51 Presides over; furniture (6)
53 (Hair) not cut in short, even style (8)
55 Caesar's telegram from Britain (4,4,4)
57 Civvies; Muslim jurist (5)
59 Veg.; enticement (6)
60 Spectacular (8)
61 Classification (11)
64 Britten comic opera; *bright learner (anag.)* (6,7)
66 Forcefully apply (5)
67 Rejection; (first) choice (7)
68 Unsuitability (17)
69 Not clearly demonstrated (3-6)
70 Gov't as parent-substitute (5,5)
71 That's obvious (2,6,2,6)

DOWN

1 Hard, painful position (3,2,5)
2 Provisional prison term (9,8)
3 Sir Thomas ———, conductor (7)
4 Strength; jellied pig's head (5)
5 Telling (tale) (9)
6 Handing over (12)
7 Passing-message party game (7,8)
8 Fruit, not a cooker (6,5)
10 Lamb fillet; hazel choc (8)
11 Club carrier (6)
12 Addresses (absent listener) (13)
13 Trainee priests (9)
14 Nerves, apprehension (3,6-7)
15 Blood vessel (4)
22 Poultice (7,7)
24 Not in catalogue (8)
26 Died fighting (6,2,6)
28 Oaks course (5)
31 Outlines; curving shape (8)
33 Irritate, criticise, a person (3,2,3)
35 Attacks in response to attacks (7-10)
36 Wrong saying of word (16)
39 Unwelcome intruder (6,2,3,4)
41 Bosnia capital (8)
43 Own-life story (13)
46 Rid of weapons (5)
47 Cooked-meat shop (12)
50 Motorist's exam (7,4)
52 It is not to be publicly washed (5,5)
54 Scatty person (4-5)
56 Annoying things (9)
58 Vermin, thief, at docks (5,3)
62 Compel (observance) (7)
63 Gullet (6)
65 Baghdad its capital (4)
67 Repeated-refrain movement (5)

[illegible]

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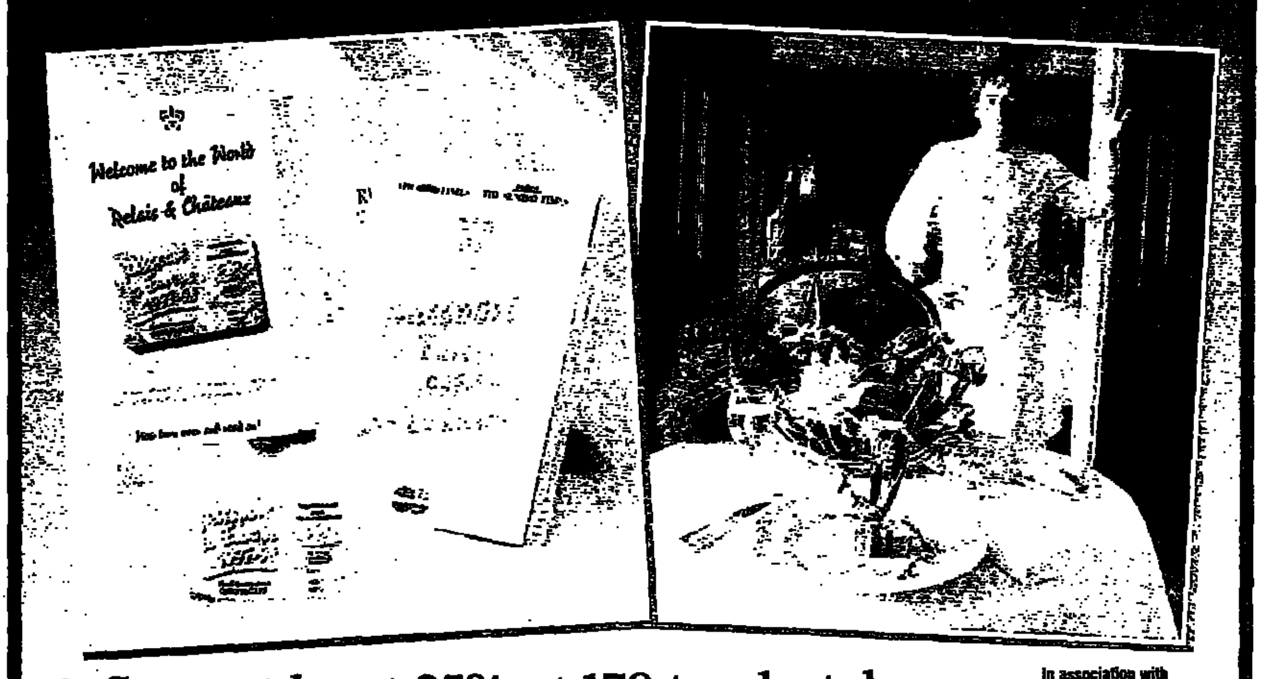

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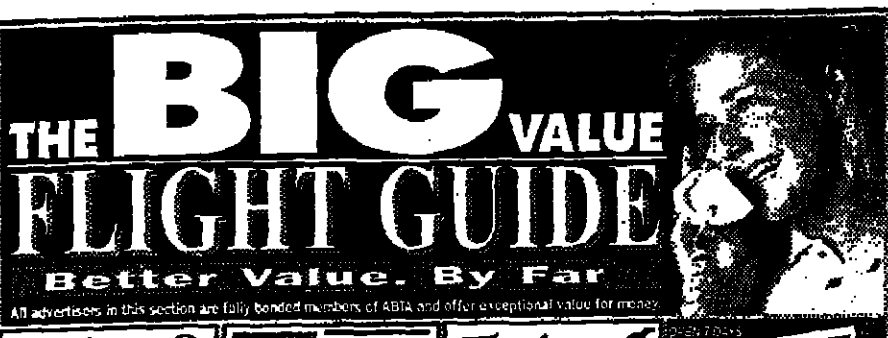
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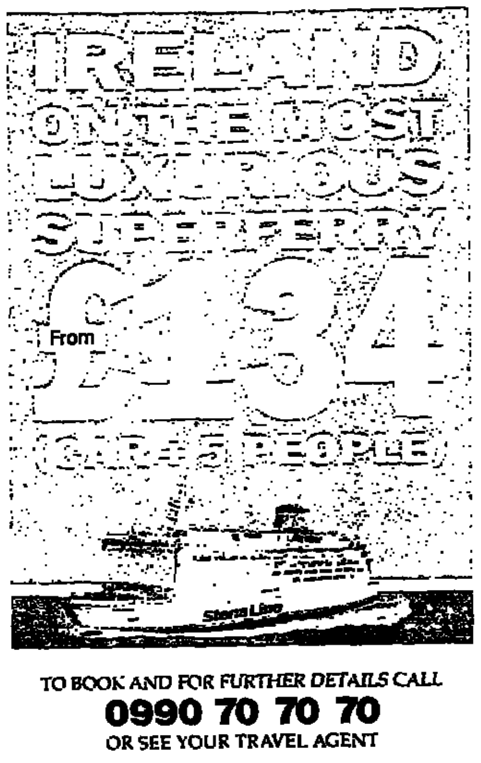
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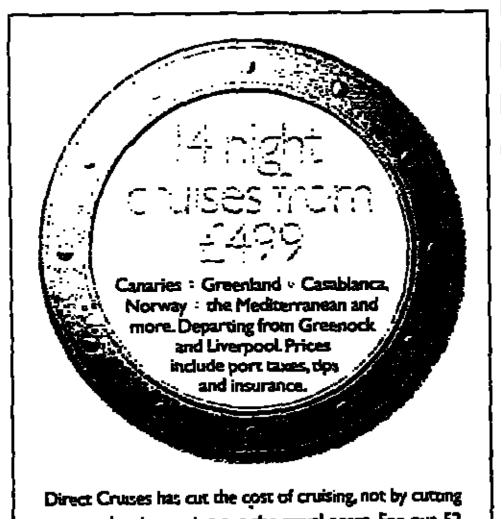

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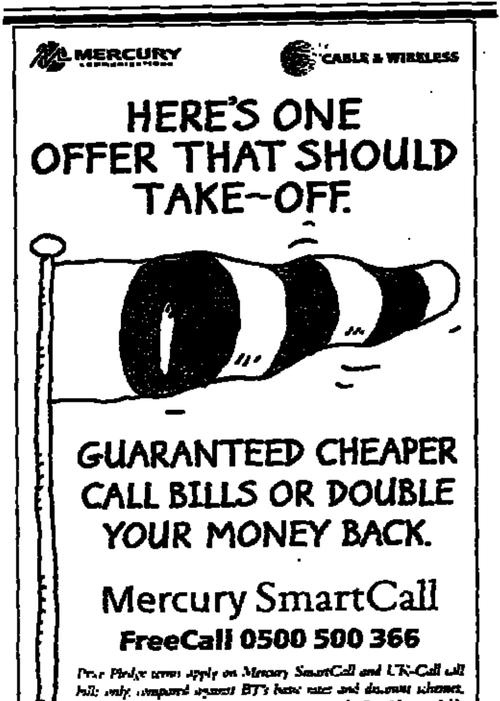
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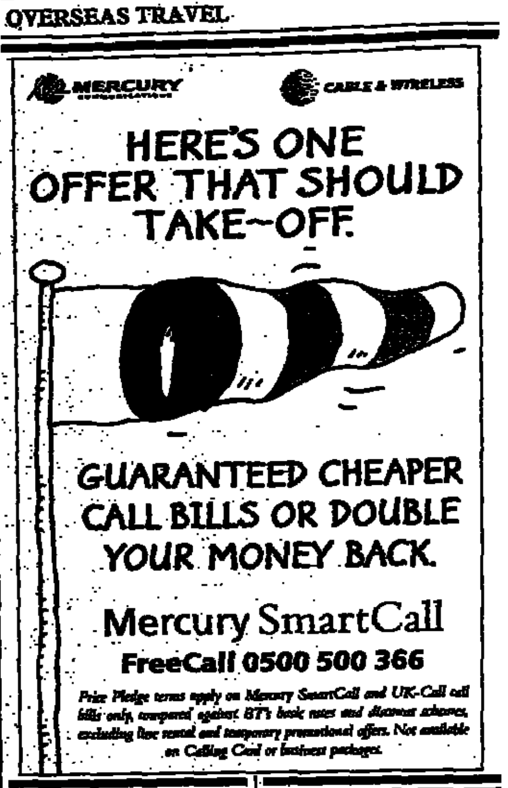
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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

IN AN interesting vindication of the rating system, *Britain's top two* ranked grandmasters, Michael Adams and Matthew *Sadler*, have shared first place in this year's British Championship. As befits the toughest tournament for many years, competition was fierce, and at the end of the second week of play the destination of the championship title was still unresolved. At the end of the scheduled 11 rounds the leading scores were as follows: Adams, Sadler, Miles and Emms 8-11: Summerscale, Hebden, Sisikiran, Ledger and Speelman 7.5; McShane and others 7.

At this stage it was ordained that a tie-breaker should occur, but even this failed to separate Adams and Sadler, who were declared joint champions by the British Chess Federation. Here is one of the decisive games from the play-off.

White: Matthew Sadler; Black: Tony Miles
British Championship Play-off, August 1997
French Defence

1 d4 e6 2 e4 d5
3 Nd2 dxe4 4 Nxe4 *Nd7*
5 Bd3

More *normal, and indeed* better, would be 5 Nf3 at once.

5 ... Ngf6 6 Qe2 c5
7 Nxf6+ Nxf6 8 dxc5 Bxc5

White's handling of the opening has been infelicitous. In fact, he has succeeded in transposing into a variation of the Caro-Kann Defence (1 e4 c6) where White's king's knight would already have been on f3. White now has to struggle to maintain equality.

9 Bd2 0-0 10 0-0-0 Qd5

Possibly too ambitious. An alternative is 10 ... Qb6.

11 Bc3 Qg5+

11 ... Qxa2 12 Bxf6 would guarantee White at least a draw. Justifi*ably, Black aims for more.*

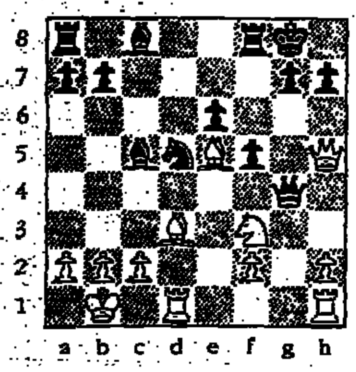
12 Kb1 Nd5

If 12 ... Qxg2 again 13 Bxf6 *damaging Black's kingside.*

13 Be5 Qxg2

The consistent point of Black's play. Otherwise White will simply gain time against the black queen with Nf3.

14 Qb5 f5 15 Nf3 Qg4



Black must have relied on this move which apparently forces the trade of queens. But he is in for a shock.

16 Rhg1

A beautiful queen sacrifice.

16 ... Qxh5

Black's hand is forced.

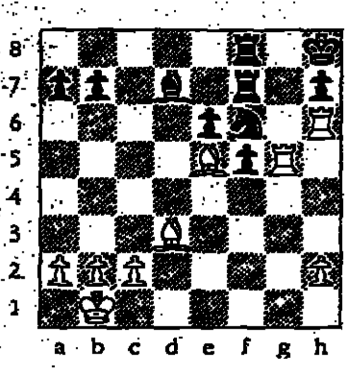
17 Rxg7+Kh8 18 Rg5+ Nf6
19 Rxh5 Bxf2

To control the squares g1 and ultimately h6, to prevent their utilisation by White's rooks.

20 Rd2 Be3 21 Rg2 Bd7
22 Ng5

The threat to capture on h7 forces Black to part with his bishop.

22 ... Bxg5 23 Rgxg5 Rf7
24 Rh6 Raf8



25 b3

Ultimately Black has no defence.

25 ... Bc6 26 Bc4 *Bd7*
27 a4 a6 28 a5 Bc8
29 Kb2 *Bd7* 30 Rgg6

This wins a piece.

30 ... Bc8 31 Bxf6+ Rxf6
32 Rxf6 Rxf6 33 Rxf6 Kg7
34 Rxe6 Bxe6 35 Bxe6 f4
36 Bd5 Black resigns

WINNING MOVE

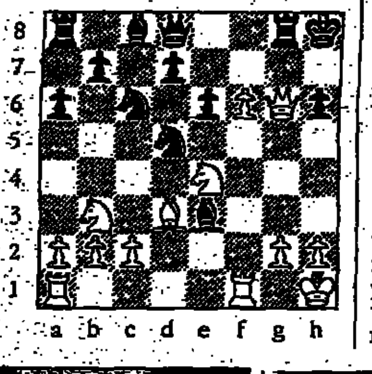
By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Lechtynsky - Pachman, Czechoslovakia 1968. White is a piece down but, with the black queenside so undeveloped, he has a chance for a quick win. Can you see it?

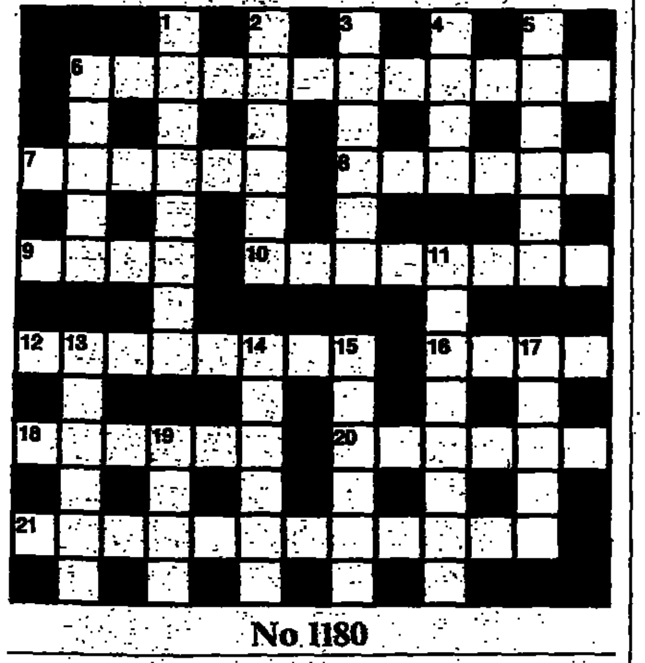
Send your answer on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first correct answer drawn on Thursday will win a year's subscription to the Staunton Society. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 ... Rd1+

Last week's winner: S Liddington, Cheam, Surrey.



TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1180

ACROSS

6 Haughty (12)
7 Minimum valid attendance (6)
8 MND weaver (6)
9 Garden tool; potato (4)
10 *Attendance list* (8)
12 Soup-preparation vessel (8)
16 Place for accused (4)
18 Ball on hat; jerky motion (6)
20 Outcome (6)
21 (Complicating) consequence (12)

DOWN

1 Scattered (8)
2 Minor earthquake (6)
3 Car-safety inflator (3,3)
4 Clothed; belted (*arch.*) (4)
5 Lamps went out all over it (*Grey, 1914*) (6)
6 Drink noisily (5)
11 Enjoying hurting (8)
13 Hard worker; sort of horse (6)
14 Addition to front of word (6)
15 Bird, very bright beak (6)
17 Entertaining fool (5)
19 Edge of cup, hat (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1179
ACROSS: 1 Classical 6 Roo 8 Titanic 9 Tilth 10 Pare 11 Horrible 13 Wafted 14 Strict 17 Sisyphus 18 Magi 20 Alien 21 Grinned 22 Pen 23 Eventuate
DOWN: 1 Cat's-paw 2 After a fashion 3 Sand 4 Cuckoo 5 Literate 6 Rule, Britannia! 7 Ochre 12 Response 15 Twiddle 16 Bungle 17 Swamp 19 Fist

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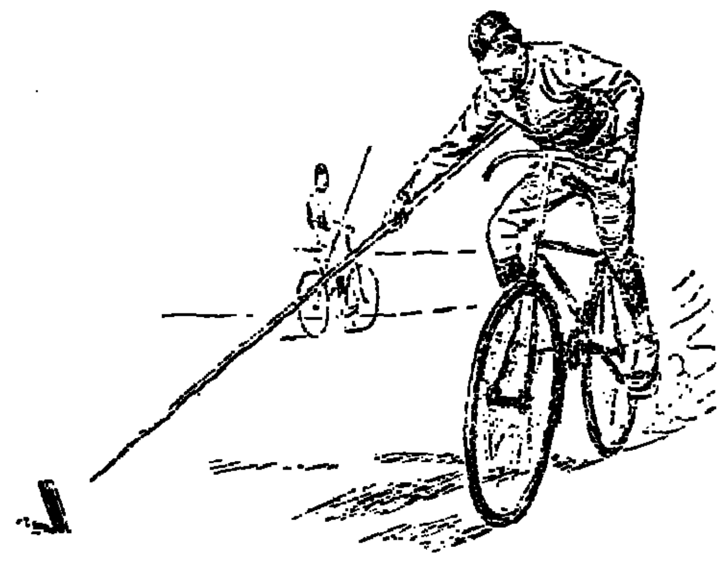
PUNCHLINE

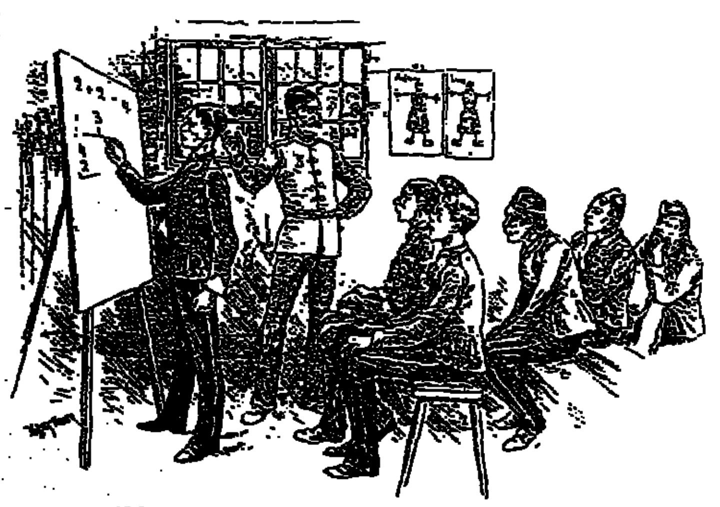
READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from *The Strand Magazine* (reproduced from Westminster Libraries, Sherlock Holmes Collection, Marylebone Library).

The cartoon will be printed again next week with a caption from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption 66, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, August 27.





"You must anticipate holidaymakers visiting Cyprus singly or in assorted groups"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted *by G.Canning of Scarisbrick, Lancashire*

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CANDENT
a. A tooth
b. White-hot
c. Singing

CRINKUM-CRANKUM
a. *A barrel organ*
b. Twisted
c. A riddle

CAPITLE
a. A chapter
b. To capitulate
c. A cardinal's cap

CUISH
a. Scottish Shut up
b. To boil
c. A thigh-piece

Answers on page 19

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

YOU are North with North-South game, rubber bridge, and East is the dealer: This is the auction::

W	N	E	S
-	-	3S	Pass
Pass	?		

What would you bid with this?

♠9♥AQ5♦A65♣AKQJ52

Your options are Double (for takeout of course, much the best *method*), Four Clubs, and a bid which may surprise some readers, 3NT. The disadvantage of doubling is that South may feel nervous of bidding 3NT on say

♠K42♥J743♦Q43♣1062

in case North has a weaker hand.

Four Clubs is too feeble to contemplate, so that brings us to 3NT. That may look odd with no spade stopper. However in this *sequence West is quite likely to* raise with anything in spades, and *therefore South* will have good spades often enough to make 3NT a good bet. *I rate 3NT the best bid.*

I had a similar bidding problem *in this year's BBL Premier League.* I held the hand above, but I was dealer at game all and this was the sequence:

W	N	E	S
-	1C	2S	Pass
Pass	?		

East's intervention of Two Spades was "intermediate" — best *described as an opening bid* with a good six card suit.

With the extra round of bidding available, another bid came into *the picture — Three Spades, asking* South to bid 3NT if he had a spade stopper. Admittedly my hand only has eight tricks, and when the dummy is exposed in 3NT the defence will have the sense not to continue spades. But there are likely to be other chances.

The gambling bid of 3NT is no longer necessary, and is less attractive anyway. As East's bid showed some high cards, West would be less inclined to make a pre-emptive raise, so the inference that my partner had a spade stopper was weaker.

So I bid Three Spades. Now Senior bid Four Hearts. What should I bid now?

W	N	E	S
-	1C	2S	Pass
Pass	3S	Pass	4H
Pass	?		

In practice I passed, but I missed an obvious point — South has volunteered Four Hearts when my hand might have been say:

♠9♥J2♦AK4♣AKQJ542

It was clear he had to have a good heart suit, at least six headed by the king. Hence I should have given him Six Hearts, the contract they bid at the other table. The full deal:

	N	
	♠9 ♥AQ5 ♦A65 ♣AKQJ52	
♠J652 ♥32 ♦Q732 ♣973	W E	♠AKQ874 ♥9 ♦K94 ♣1064
	S	
	♠103 ♥KJ108764 ♦J108 ♣8	

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

by Tim Wapshott

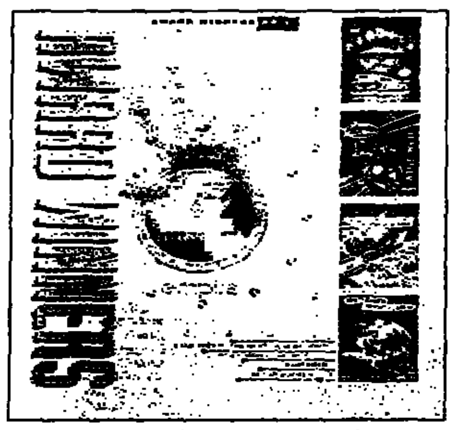
THE SHAPE of football has changed beyond recognition in the past couple of decades. Once teams signed players for life and the only revenue came from gate receipts. Now teams make extra millions by selling expensive merchandise and even get floated on the stock exchange — with share prices sent spiralling should key players fall ill or from favour.

Today's football relies as much on an eye for big business as tactics on the pitch. Competent football management sims are still surprisingly low on the ground, despite a plethora of regular footballing titles. **Gremlin's Premier Manager 97**, for Windows 95 and part of the Actua Sports Series, combines both genres but cannot live up to the claims of delivering "a new era in football management", even if you do choose from 92 clubs in the English divisions. Commentary is provided by good old Barry Davies but that does not compensate for the largely clumsy handling.

FIFA Soccer Manager features 7,500 players in the top divisions from five of Europe's strongest footballing nations. As well as putting together the ultimate fantasy team, you can also build then modify your stadium with 300 pieces, from undersoil heating to luxurious facilities for your faithful fans. Despite the multiple options, the play does little to fire the adrenalin.

UEFA Champions League 1996/7, from Philips, is the official computer game of the UEFA Champions League of the same year, with a historical database of players from 32 international teams. With no management responsibilities to tackle, the focus is purely on matches and the motion-captured players' graphics look splendid, like tiny moving coloured transfers.

There is much variety in the coverage, with multiple zooming camera shots, action replays and TV style presentation. Bundled with the title is a free goals video but, sadly, I found that more playable than the game. For a classic regular football title, Actua Soccer still takes some beating with its intoxicatingly droll commentary from Barry Davies. It is now available on Empire's budget four-disc CD-Rom compendium, **Award Winners No I**, which includes **Star Trek: The Next Generation, Pro Pinball — The Web and Screamer.**



Empire's Award Winners No 1, includes Star Trek: The Next Generation

Cricket 97 from EA Sports is entertaining even if it does not exactly bowl you over. Running on Windows 95 or DOS, you dabble slightly in team management but this is really a game requiring good reflexes. There are variable skill levels and you can play Test Matches, One Day Internationals, The World Challenge or opt for a Fast Match. You can also tackle one-day or Test Match games over a network or by modem. Richie Benaud provides the commentary with pitch reports by Ian Botham.

Now another look at some of the winning entries for Cyberspace Thirty-Three, giving readers the wherewithal to publish their own internet pages on the World Wide Web thanks to year-long Direct Connection accounts. DIY enthusiast Mr C. Emblem of Newmarket, Suffolk, hopes his site will put an end to wonky shelves and haphazard crazy paving. "DIY is booming," he explained, "and the Den Website will offer news of essential tools, skills and tips for popular DIY projects around the home such as electrics, plumbing, tiling, wallpapering, patios and ponds."

Mr Emblem's site will cover "safety and legalities" plus "a confidence-boosting photo gallery of completed projects". Nigel Lamb of Edgware, Middlesex, hopes to make a small world even smaller. He wrote: "I would try to run a website that would enable people around the world, who have lost contact with family or friends, to post messages on a virtual noticeboard with the aim of re-establishing contact."

Bola Adamolekun of Hampstead, north west London, is co-founder of the charity WMOF and she will use her site to publicise its work. "This is a charity aimed at increasing social awareness about the roles of Christian women in different walks of life," she said. "The site will provide a forum for Christian women to discuss their experiences."

She added: "This web site will recognise the individual's right to privacy and opinion." There will be more winning entries next week plus news of the addresses for our winners' pages as each opens for business.

A final reminder of the offer for readers of this column wanting to get themselves connected to the internet with Direct Connection. Mention *The Times* to qualify for a 12-month subscription for the price of ten months, with no set-up fee, all for £135. You can also sign up for a one-month trial with no set-up fee. Telephone 0800 0720000 during office hours for further details.

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No 3424: Stack of Fruit by Corylus

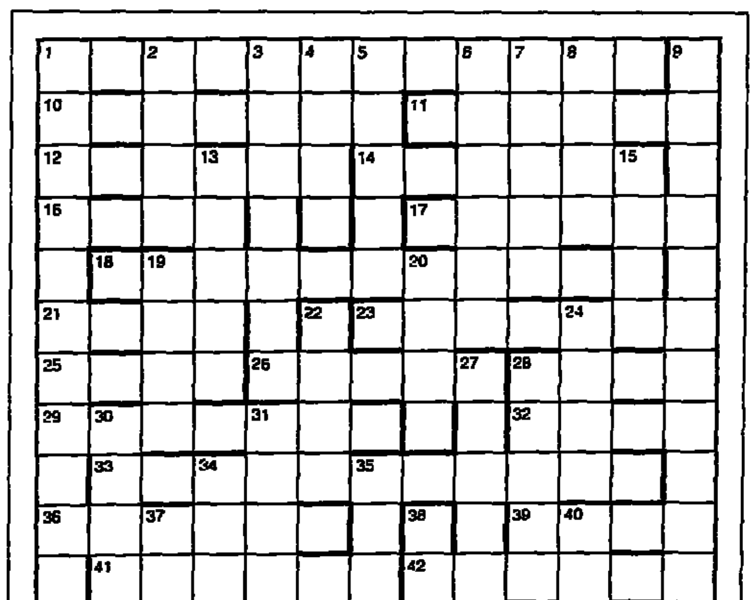
The first part is given by 2 unclued answers; the second part is given cryptically by 1 unclued answer; the end of the last part is given cryptically by 1 unclued answer. The 11 intermediate words occur in order as redundant words in the otherwise normal clues. No clue contains more than one redundant word. 2 other unclued answers given the author.

ACROSS

10 Running if jumper had one dashing around (7)
11 *He heads Scottish drive to secure mine* (6)
12 Plant Oz animal in hospital department (6)
14 *Braved daringly? Could be that* (6)
16 Rugby finds Union Street has to lose efficiency by *inactivity* (4)
17 Cut round bar, unimportant type (6)
21 Mix-up cut old Irish scholar (4)
23 Tortoises try edible shoots? (7)
25 Hurried back round English close (4)
26 Swiss banker's pithy saying (5)
28 *Short metal* supports (4)
29 Cheese cut on a kind of board (7)
32 That notion one put to divine Roman female (4)
33 Detain suspect swallowing poison in drink (11)
36 Squealing, "Small mixed gin!" (6)
39 Expression of surprise, for example, in our time (4)
41 I am sadly returning spiced meat (6)
42 Moving quickly, sense having loss of energy (6)
43 Keen 60 mins. in bed of rock (6)
44 Failure keeps that woman an unadmirable character (7, hyphenated)
45 University's editor suppresses remark without publicity (12)

DOWN

2 To press this close, top to bottom, is incorrect (4)
3 European climbing tree in good quick escaping (7)
4 North-east continues dry, no longer bright (4)
5 *To a worshipping figure nothing's organised before* time (5)
6 Manual workers disable five services? (6)
7 *Greatly alter revolting Scottish cottage room* (5)
8 Metal in Cairngorms? (4)
13 Oil sent up to sailor (5)
15 *Be brave, British and mature* (4)
19 Scottish bush in valley — not dead (4)
20 Dense gas covers mother gulls (4)
24 Bean, European, pointed (4)
27 *Wonderful recording put up by worker?* (7)
28 Sharp timeless cheat (5)
30 Rushes to leave upper-class posh car, turns left (4)
34 Lime trees are not well when it comes up (5)
35 Reactive *substance* I dig up (5)
37 One in English service to receive a salary (4)
38 Chest there's cut away (in US), one old Norse *people adored* (4)
40 In Edinburgh presents judo costumes (4)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3424
in association with Waterstone's

NAME……………………………………………………

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Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3424, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE, by Thursday, August 28.

I	V	E	G	O	T	A	L	I	T	T
D	I	S	G	M	T	L	O	N	I	L
E	D	O	O	N	E	U	N	B	C	E
S	E	T	T	E	R	S	C	U	A	L
S	I	D	R	I	S	M	Y	R	M	I
I	N	Y	A	N	T	I	T	G	E	S
M	A	H	G	G	A	L	O	H	A	T
E	M	O	E	I	N	A	L	I	S	T
R	E	R	U	N	T	R	U	M	R	H
E	R	S	N	E	S	E	S	P	I	E
W	M	E	H	T	F	O	L	L	A	Y

Solution to No 3421: Event by Anon

Answers with names missed: 7a DIS-ROBIN-G, 12a UNB-ALAN-CE, 20a MYRMI-DON, 21a JIM-INY, 23a ANTI-CHRIS-T, 24a G-ROSS-ES, 25a MAH-JON-GG, 27a MARG-INALIST, 33a TRUM-PETE-R, 35a HAL-ERS, 2d ESOT-ERIC, 3d OMN-IVOR-E, 4d ALU-DEL-S, 5d LON-DON, 6d ED-INBURGH, 9d *PHIL-TERS, 15d CYTO-DES*, 17d DAN-DYHORSE, 18d RAG-TIME, *19d WILL-ING, 20d MIL-DEN*, 26d AN-ALEC-TS, 27d INE-BRIAN-T, *28d AREO-LES, 29d LUS-TED*, 30d IMP-ANNE-L, 32d UNH-ANDY.

The winner is: Niall MacSweeney of Dublin.

The five runners-up are: *Peter Bush* of Saffron Walden, Essex; T.Higham of Chorley, *Lancs*; A.Ray of Carmarthen; J.Brown of Leighton Buzzard, Bedforshire; *J* Fensome of Macclesfield, Cheshire.

Contrary to rumour, the Listener Crossword is safe.

W

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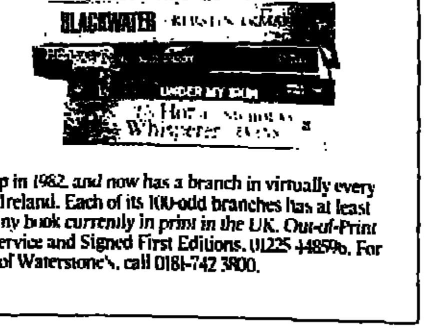
The winner will receive a Waterstone's book token worth £75. Five runners-up will each receive a book token worth £10



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ATTRACTIVE, very successful Asian lady (London based), 38 seeks successful handsome cultured witty gentleman with heart. Box No 7034 ☎ ✉

BEAUTIFUL Carribean girl, 25, slim, stylish, funloving, seeks handsome, athletic, successful, solvent, romantic gentleman, 28-38, whose ready for the real thing London based. Box No 6948 ☎ ✉

BLONDE, attractive, professional female (London based), 36, WLTM intelligent, kind, affectionate male for love and marriage Please write with photo to Box No 6976 ☎ ✉

BUBBLY blonde with a brain cell!, 30 something! Pretty, fit, or pretty fit! Could you fit pretty well? (into my life). If you are 30 or 40 something, hurry I'm in Surrey. Please reply to Box No 6932 ☎ ✉

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FRANCOPHILE? N.Pas Calais/S Kent Attractive warmhearted, English lady 50's WLTM N/S cultivated gentleman *for joie de vivre.* Please Reply with photo to Box No 7003 ☎ ✉

EDUCATED, divorced lady, residing in Cheshire, early 50's, youthful, slim, lively and considered attractive, seeks an educated, cultured/ refined gentleman who is in his mid 50's/mid 60's for sincere friendship, hopefully leading to a long term committed relationship ideally a slim/medium build, 5'10" or over, clean shaven & n/s. Someone who, though *not* necessarily an intellectual, is a thinker & an explorer of ideas. Sensitivity & thoughtfulness are important though not in themselves enough. All replies which include a recent photograph & full personal details will be answered & treated in the utmost confidence Photographs will be returned. Replies from any part of the UK will be welcomed. Box No 6978 ☎ ✉

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HAMPSHIRE lady attractive, 38, seeks educated gentleman 40-55 for lasting relationship. Please Reply to Box No 7002 ☎ ✉

I'M definitely not cut out for this living alone malarky!! If you're 38-48, *fun, friendly,* good value, uncomplicated and like me want to spend quality time with a quality person, regardless of interests. London. Photo please, reply to Box No 6994 ☎ ✉

IMPATIENT, *Impetuous, Impulsive*, 60, with a Celtic streak, WLTM honest, loving man under 60. Box No 6958 ☎ ✉

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

KENT professional German lady, 33, attractive, with GSOH, enjoys travel, country, cooking and antics WLTM N/S, kind and intelligent man 35-45 who wants to share a happy future in France. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box 7021 ☎ ✉

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Slim attractive and very feminine damsel in distress (41) seeks intelligent caring knight in shining armour for romance *and hedonistic delights.Please* Reply to Box No 6925

SMART, vivacious, attractive lady, 55, 5'6", fair hair, green eyes. Enjoys good lifestyle. WLTM a kind, upmarket, prof gentleman. Box No 6901 ☎ ✉

SOPHISTICATED tall auburn hair (1955) professional Jewish modern Orthodox romantic woman WLTM tall dark slim chap. Liverpool/ Cheshire area. Photo please to Box No 6999 ☎ ✉

SUSSEX girl, 5'6", slim & fit & dark seeks male 45+ to share the thrills & spills of life & the quiet times. Please Reply with photo to Box No 7027 ☎ ✉

VERY attractive *feminine* lady, dark hair, green eyes, loves life, animals, theatre, good conversation and happy times. WLTM 50ish, 6' solvent attractive gentleman. GSOH a must London/ Surrey area. Photo welcome Bx 6966 ☎ ✉

WIDOW WLTM a sincere gentleman, 70-75, for friendship. I am Continental. London based. Please Reply to Box No 6965 ☎ ✉

ZZZzzz *Wake up!* Club Encounters is open Saturday & Sunday Call free 0800 141 141

WOULD like very much to meet 58-65 yr old with sparkle, bright but tolerant, fit, into cinema, theatre, opera, books, *National Trust*, dinner in town, picnics in the country. Bridge a bonus, Hispanophile? *Linguist?* N.S. pref. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 6957 ☎ ✉

BLONDE, 32, attractive, professional, extensively travelled (lived in France & Australia) & sporty (enjoys skiing -water & snow etc) with GSOH WLTM cosmopolitan, successful & interesting male 32-45 for fun & the future. London/Home Counties. Please Reply with photo to *Box* No 6752 ☎ ✉

CREATIVE lady SOH, attractive, late 50's comfortable lifestyle, diverse interests N/S WLTM caring prof man seeking lasting relationship. Sussex. *Reply* to Box No 6699 ☎ ✉

EDUCATED lady, 28, WLTM an honest man, 35 + for serious relationship. Photo appreciated. London based Please reply to Box No 6716 ☎ ✉

NORTH of Watford, I'm a slim, fair, others say attractive widow with homes in the Dales & Knightsbridge, interests both town & country. *Seeks tallish* N/S man 50-65 of honour, substance, intellect & wit. Reply in writing. Box 6755 ☎ ✉

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

SCANDINAVIAN mermaid 44 *looking for* serious relationship. London/ countryside. Box No 6727 ☎ ✉

SOPHISTICATED, independent, busy, attractive, soft centred, sensuous Scorpio, 45, with lots of joie de vivre seeks tall, self assured prof man with whom to share impromptu romantic picnics, intelligent conversation, champagne & laughter. Photograph preferred. Oxon/ Bucks/ London. Box No 6680 ☎ ✉

STRIKING, stylish, serious silly, super blonde 50 seeks smiling, stalwart, sensitive, successful man 60+. Box No 6721 ☎ ✉

GAY female, 33, *feminine*, attractive, GSOH, non scene, *together*, WLTM similar. Photo please West London. Please Reply to Box No 6750 ☎ ✉

TORTURED souls need not apply! Adventurous, tall brunette, Norfolk/Suffolk area, attractive & warm, 41, *no ties, N/S. Extensively* travelled, well read, enjoys travel, country pursuits, animals, reading, cinema & theatre, antiques & object d'arts, eating in & out, good wine, & convivial company seeks fit & healthy, tall genuine, solvent caring *male* with GSOH, similar interests & a zest for life. Please Reply with recent photo to Box No 6709 ☎ ✉

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CONFIDENT athletic City man, 34, 6'0". seeks charming lady with Hermes scarf and *attitude.* Reply to Box No 6772 ☎ ✉

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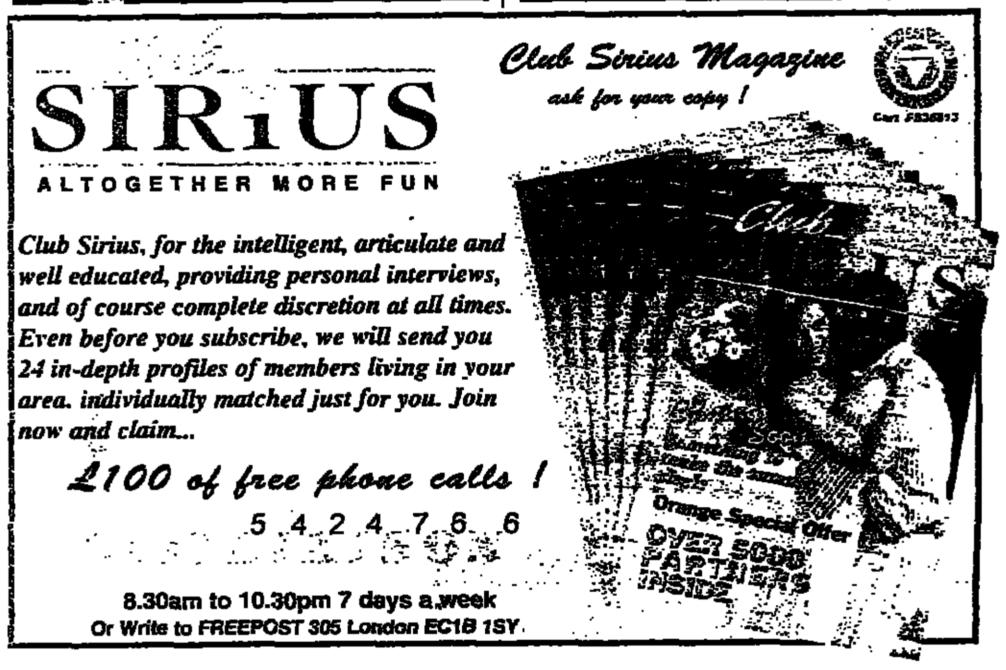

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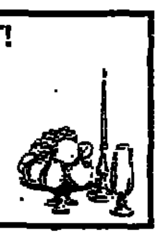

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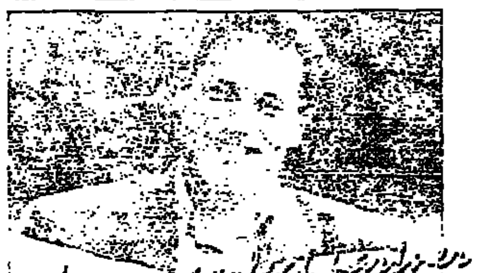

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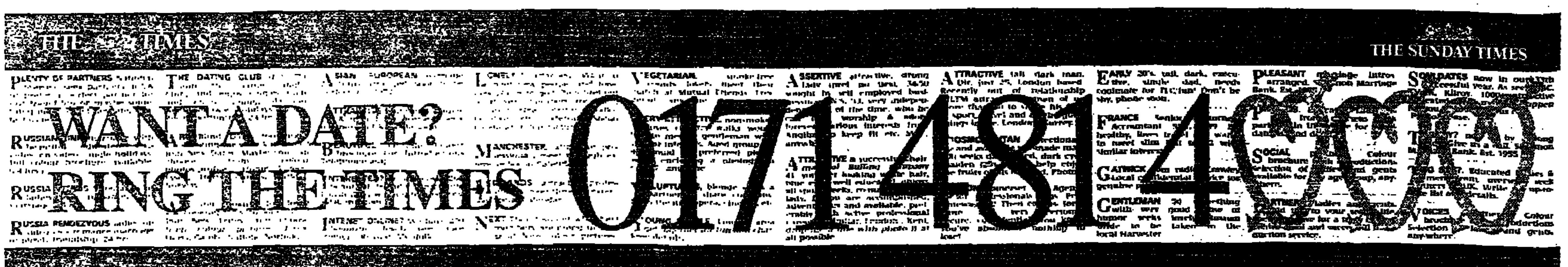


قضايا من الاحل

Legal eagles who play two-wheel demons

Page 5

CAR 97

Back seat or front: is anywhere now safe for baby?

Page 8

SATURDAY AUGUST 23 1997

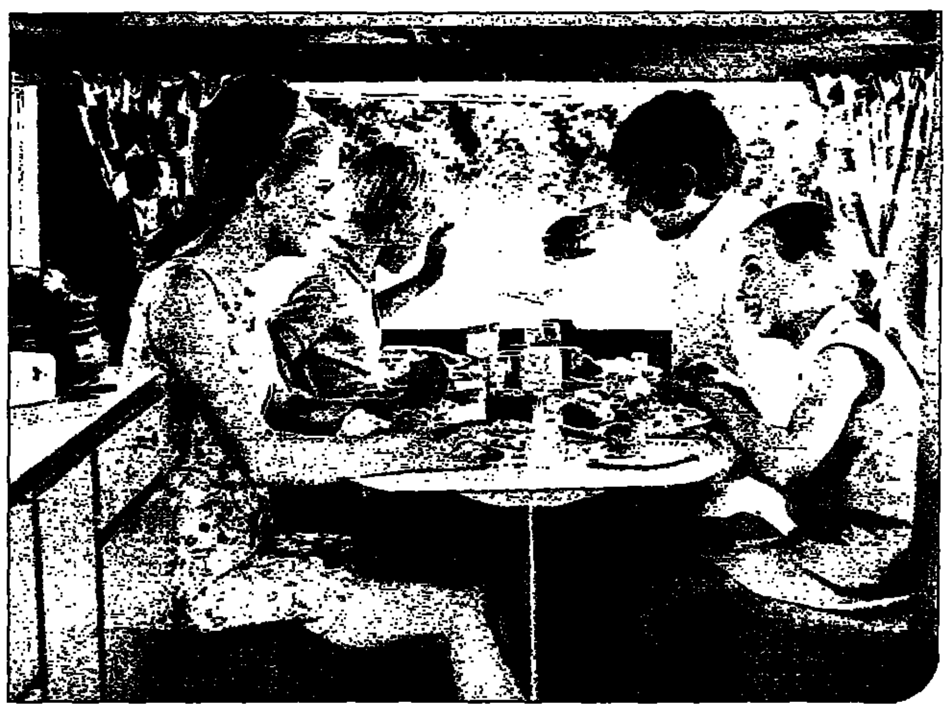
BANK HOLIDAY SPECIAL: TOURING, BIKING AND PLAYING SAFE

Caravan is banned from modern life

We must now go away "touring" in marketing land, reports Kevin Eason

The way we were: enjoying all mod cons, albeit in a rather Heath Robinson fashion, in this luxury 1949 trailer

Plump duvet, smart dressing gown and a lovely view of the site: fun, Fifties-style



Jam yesterday: a 1960s family tea amid the big hair, rosy cheeks and dodgy curtains

Just say the word and it steels the heart of even the most hardened motorist, conjuring up visions of bobble hats and anoraks, campfire sing-songs and traffic jams that go on for miles at a snail's pace.

But after 90 years, the end might have finally come for the word, if not the vehicle. For caravanners — for want of a better word — want to ban the word "caravan".

Call it anything you like, from luxury mobile to touring home, but whatever you do, don't call it a caravan or you risk the wrath of makers and showroom owners alike who fear images of *Carry on Camping* with sodden fields, leaky roofs and a mile walk to communal toilets, will damage sales.

In the spirit of marketing-speak, nobody goes caravanning anymore: they go touring instead. Ah, so much nicer. Now this is a change which will come as a cultural shock to about 285,000 diehard caravanners who have almost overnight have become tourers, or tourists, when they thought they were members of the Caravan Club.

But even they must have noticed the word slipping inexorably from the sales catalogues and advertisements, gradually expunged as though it might slip away from the memory to allow a bright new future to dawn.

Michael Hold, owner of Barrons Great Outdoors, Britain's biggest retailer of vehicles now not known as caravans, banned the mention of the word from his showrooms in Durham, Lancashire and Cheshire, even putting a swear-box on the counter. One slip, one unsuspecting use of the C-word by one of his 140 staff meant a donation to charity.

He reckoned sales improved once he got rid of the word caravan from the company title because the company was in fact provider of "luxury homes, mobile homes, tourers, anything but the dreaded C-word."

Many manufacturers are so sensitive to the connotations of the word caravan that they are changing their names to become makers of "leisure" or "recreational" vehicles.

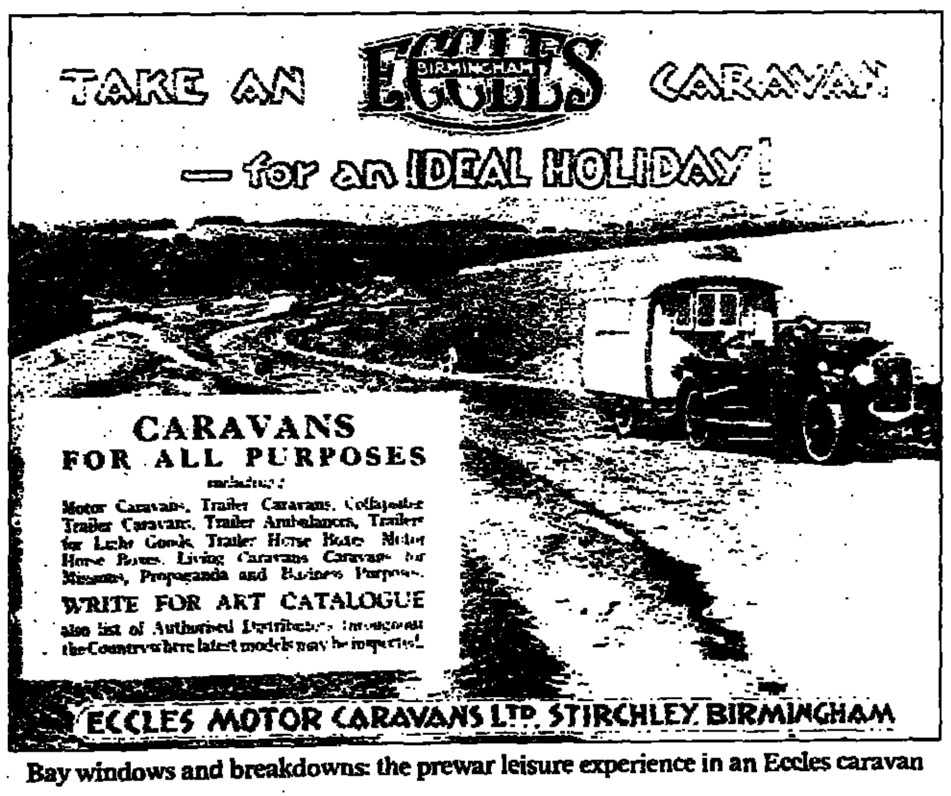
Only the Caravan Club plugs away with press releases bearing the fateful word, but then caravan entered its lexicon 90 years ago on formation of the club.

In the heyday of caravanning, life was so much simpler, mummy pouring tea while the children played bat and ball in the meadow. Families who caravanned together, stayed together through the thick and thin of Britain's unpredictable weather and a life which could be as spartan as a prison camp.

Pictures show caravanners apple-cheeked, wearing sensible sweaters and grinning inanely into a distance that seemed to promise that there would be jam for tea every day, whatever the price of sterling on world markets and whether the Newbury bypass was built or not.

Now glossy press releases come from the Tourer Marketing Bureau, decorated with a classy logo. *Touring is lifestyle and pictures* are of sleek saloons on exotic mountains; tourers, or whatever people in not-the-caravans now are called, wear designer-label hiking gear and get ready to windsurf. Another piece of innocence lost in an increasingly avaricious world?

Maybe not, but if you get stuck behind one this weekend, whatever you do, mind your language and scream: "Get out of the way, you *damned* tourer."



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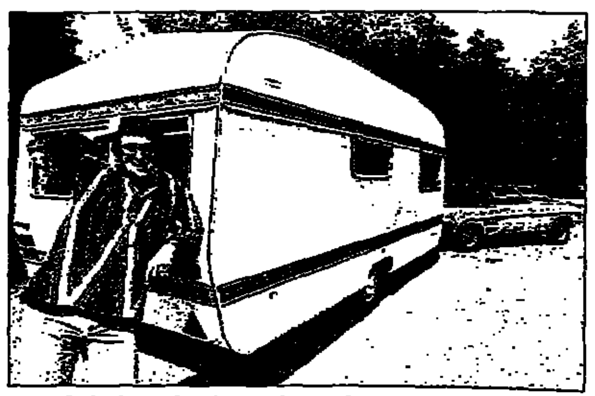
Bay windows and breakdowns: the prewar leisure experience in an Eccles caravan

You can't pull in that shirt



Loud clothes, Ford Capri: yes, he was a professional

THERE he is: a testimony to the taste in shirts that closed down a thousand high street stores and gave caravanning a name that ranks in popular culture alongside the anorak and prawn cocktail.

Who are caravanners? Who risks being reviled by neighbours, apparently abandoning common sense to hitch that huge box to the family hatchback? *Kevin Eason asks.*

See the reaction when you innocently tell people: "Just back from holiday. Took the caravan, actually. So easy, you know, just load it up and go."

You will only get to "carav . . ." before your questioner glazes over and discovers a compelling reason why he or she should be in the kitchen/dining room/dashing home to get another drink/file for divorce/put the baby in the oven.

I know. You see, my friend was a caravanner once: a rising young executive on the up-escalator of his career when this picture appeared in a national newspaper 20 years ago. Things were never the same again but with treatment both the caravan — and the shirt — have thankfully been consigned to the dustbin of travelling history.

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Sunroofs are on the way out, hints a motor industry keen to get us spending on the next big thing. But they may not have our best interests at heart

What's the con behind air-con?

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION

Peter Barnard

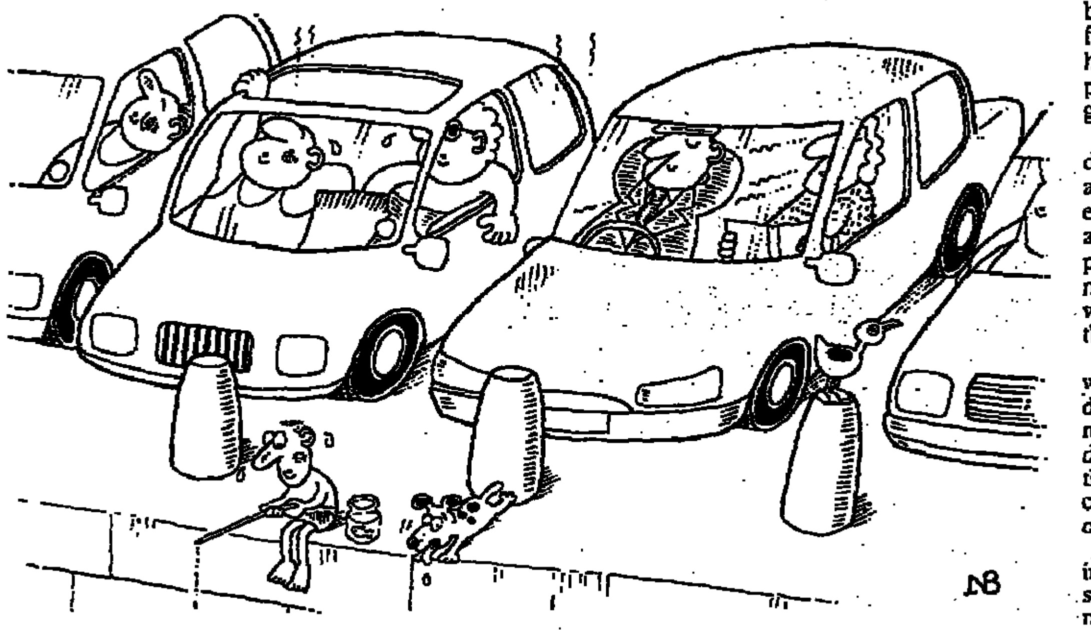
If this sweltering, sticky old August reinforces the theory that global warming is really happening, something will also have to happen to car design beyond the steps already being taken to reduce fuel consumption and exhaust emissions. We may, for example, be seeing the end of the sunroof.

This has always been something of an oddity, although I would be sorry to see it disappear. True, in hot weather a sunroof lets through too much sun, which is why most of them now have blinds. But a sunroof can be cheering in gloomy weather and its tilt function remains the best way to change the air in the car without suffering the noise and wind caused by opening side windows.

But it sounds as if the car industry is trying to prepare us for the end of the sunroof, to judge by a quote in *The Times* this week. Alan Pulham, of the Retail Motor Industry Federation, said: "Sunroofs are noisy, they leak. They are strange things that grew up in this country when the fleet driver wanted the maximum number of visible extras so his car stood out in the street."

How every interesting. Even as we speak, I can think of at least one car commercial on television which offers a sunroof as part of the base price. A skim through the car magazines will reveal dozens of advertisements for cars which include the lure of a sunroof. None of these ads, in my experience, carries the slogan: "Get a sunroof — it's noisy and it leaks."

In fairness, Mr Pulham's comments need to to be put in context. He was quoted in an article about air-conditioning in cars and he is undoubtedly right to imply that the means to produce cool air looks like being much more useful in the longer term than the means to let in more sunlight.



I have had at least a dozen cars with sunroofs and only one of them leaked, a temporary problem caused by the drain on each side of the sunroof gutter becoming blocked. Noise? Not so much that one would be discomfited.

Clearly the industry wants us all to rush out and fit the latest fad, which is air-conditioning. I see that the table of the ten coolest cars in Britain, compiled by Lease Plan, has only one that costs less than £18,000 (the Renault Megane Scenic at £12,995) and none that is British, unless you count the Vauxhall Omega.

So clearly British manufacturers have not yet taken on board the warnings of Suzanne Charlton and co, or else they take the view that trying to sell air-conditioning to the British is much like selling ice-cream in Alaska: an exercise likely to attract scepticism. Still, the percentage of cars with air-con has almost doubled since 1990: almost half now have it.

There is a clear risk here that air-con will create the next great in-car social divide. Already drivers with air-con sit at traffic lights in baking heat with their windows firmly closed, looking smug. They have invested from £400 to the best part of £2,000 in keeping cool, so good luck to them.

They will of course know the device has drawbacks. Because air-con is driven by the car's engine, it affects fuel efficiency and, to some extent, the car's performance, though as the technology develops, these downsides will be reduced or eliminated. And the cost? That will plummet.

It is already hard to tell exactly what air-on does cost. Indeed, the device seems as much to do with marketing as cooling, for already dealers give "special offer" prices that include air-con, so that its true cost is buried within the total cost of the car.

But I am all for air-conditioning in cars and believe it should be standard in them all. This development would have the side benefit of reducing the hype associated with selling cars. But we should remember that all devices, from sunroofs to air-con, have disadvantages that the marketing tends not to mention.

Or to put it another way: I once lived in an apartment in Washington DC that had air-conditioning. It was noisy and it leaked.

IN BRIEF

New Astra takes on the old Escort

■ SLEEKER and bigger, the Vauxhall Astra will be ready to make its debut in British showrooms next spring. Though the styling is already reminiscent of another new player, the Citroën Xsara, at least the Astra brings a more modern look to the Vauxhall range. The dart-like shape means better aerodynamics helping lead to what Vauxhall describes as "best ever" fuel consumption, with economy improved by 10 per cent.

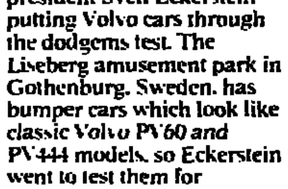
Astra looks modern at last

There will be six petrol and two turbo-diesels to choose from, with more powerful Bosch anti-lock brakes plus a new safety package. A galvanised body means corrosion warranty has been extended to 12 years. The Astra has been one of Britain's favourite cars with 1.4 million sold since 1980 and the new one should give Ford's ageing Escort a run for its money.

Volvo's safe bumper cars

Eckerstein: no dummy

■ THIS CRASH-test dummy is Volvo vice-president Sven Eckerstein putting Volvo cars through the dodgems test. The Liseberg amusement park in Gothenburg, Sweden, has bumper cars which look like classic Volvo PV60 and PV444 models, so Eckerstein went to test them for legendary Volvo safety.



■ A CRACKDOWN on tax dodgers has started. Clamping teams are patrolling London, and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency warns that offenders face big penalities: £68 to release the clamp, £135 impounding fee plus £12-a-day storage fees. Vehicles unclaimed after five weeks could be crushed.

Smart reply to traffic

The answer to city congestion might be here: just Swatch this space, says

Kevin Eason

John Prescott can throw away his Jaguar keys and pioneer the city car that sets a precedent for the vehicles we could be driving next century.

The deputy Prime Minister this week launched his transport Green Paper aimed at reducing the congestion throttling towns and cities. The Government's solution is likely in part to ban cars from city centres or introduce road tolls to clear the streets.

But the tiny Smart is the first in a series of vehicles that will offer an alternative way of moving around cities.

Almost two feet shorter than a Mini, the Smart is set to revolutionise the way we think about motoring on short journeys.

Mr Prescott said a major contributor to congestion is four and five-seat cars that block cities while containing just one driver. The Smart is a tiny two-seater, with a 600cc petrol engine, which takes up the space of half a hatchback.

Smart's manufacturer, MCC, is a joint venture between the mould-breaking Swatch company and Mercedes-Benz. They will reveal the Smart at next month's Frankfurt Motor Show but these first pictures show that they have come up with a car which redefines the rules.

The three-cylinder engine is mounted transversely under the boot, tucked at a 48-degree angle to drive the back wheels. The driver gets a six-speed clutchless and sequential gearbox — a system that effectively allows a lever-push forward to go up the gears and back to go down again.

The engine's 55 brake horse power will be enough to propel a car that weighs just 680 kilos to 50mph in a creditable ten seconds while the top speed is electronically restricted to 80mph. No fuel economy figures yet, but engineers are working on a three-cylinder diesel that will return 90 miles to the gallon and more when driving in town.

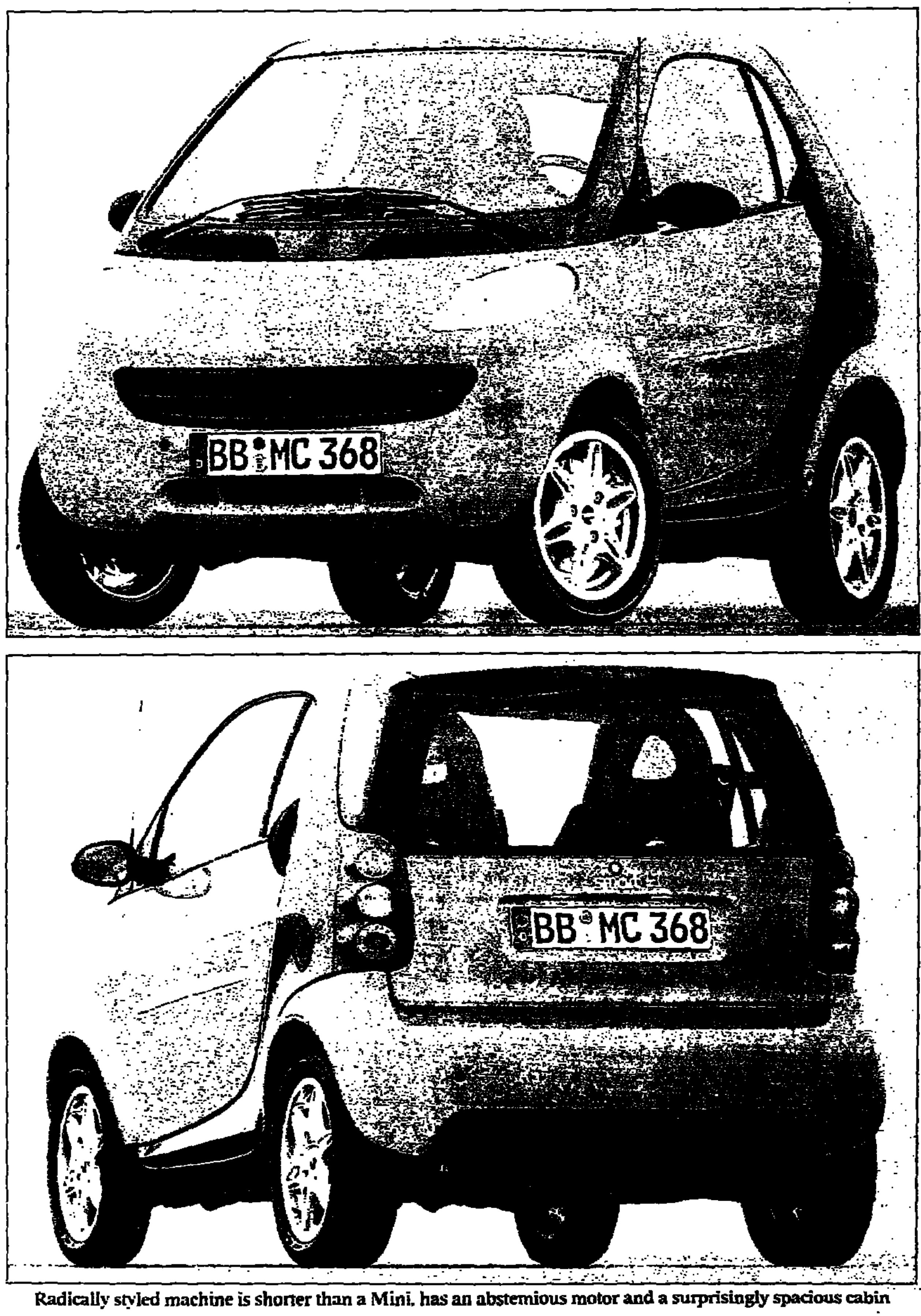
Two ingredients should make Smart a saleable proposition, particularly at a time when the Government is threatening to use taxes to punish users of gas-guzzlers and drivers demanding city road space.

Smart goes on sale in eight countries next year at prices between £5,750 and £7,200, which means it will undercut even the current Mini and challenge the Fiat Cinquecento for attention.

But the car also offers astonishing versatility for city drivers, particularly those who spend a long time motoring alone. The passenger seat folds flat or can be removed completely, while cabin room is said to be better than a Volkswagen Polo. Body panels, meanwhile, come in five different colours and are interchangeable.

There is a removable roof — and if you want to hitch up some electrical equipment, there is a wall socket. While exterior styling is radical, the interiors are eye-socking and will appeal to Twenty-somethings and drivers with a sense of fun … a little like Mr Prescott, who is known to enjoy the odd jest.

When Smart goes on sale here in 1999, he could cheer himself up by exchanging that Jaguar's meaty petrol bills for a frugal, fun Smart.



Radically styled machine is shorter than a Mini, has an abstemious motor and a surprisingly spacious cabin

Daihatsu calling

For anyone who has recoiled from a doorstep double-glazing entrepreneur or stifled yawns when faced by a cold-calling roofer, the ultimate challenge is now at hand: the door-to-door car salesman, *Vaughan Freeman writes.*

Instead of shopping for a car at a showroom, Daihatsu plans to put its sales staff in your front room, office — or anywhere else you want to talk buying cars.

The idea does away with the traditional dealership showroom, replacing it with a team of consultants who carry car details in powerful laptop computers and who visit customers wherever they might be to arrange test drives, sort out finance and seal the deal.

Known as City Daihatsu, it is part of the giant Inchcape network of dealer groups, but unlike its sister outlets seems at first consideration to lack a few vital elements, like for instance a showroom or any cars to put in it.

Now that Daihatsu has killed the showroom, potential customers, will instead be visited by Daihatsu consultants. Full details of the Daihatsu model range, colour schemes, engine details, specification and trim levels will all be kept on the consultant's laptop, together with details of financial packages. A test drive will be arranged and the car delivered to wherever the customer stipulates.

For servicing and minor repairs, the customer needs only to phone the Daihatsu freephone number, and the car will be taken away, dealt with and then returned.

Daihatsu spokesman Simon Small, says it's the best way: "The problem with city centre dealerships is that it takes time to find the right sort of dealership, overheads are high and the right premises are hard to find."

AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **LONDON**
A306 Hammersmith Bridge. Closed both ways to general traffic.
A406 Angel Edmonton. Major works at the A1010 Fore Street.
A237 Manor Road, Wallington, single alternate traffic at the junction with Melbourne Road.
A1209 Bethnal Green Road. Long-term roadworks between Vallance Road and Cambridge Heath Road.
A312 Faggs Road, Feltham. Carriageway reduced to one lane each way due to long term bridge maintenance at Faggs Bridge, north of Staines Road, between 6am and 5pm.
Richmond Park between Kingston Gate and Ham gate, closed for roadworks.
A2 Old Kent Road, New Cross, closed restrictions at various times.

● **SOUTH-EAST**
A34 Berkshire. Contraflow and narrow lanes with 40mph limit between M4 junction 13 and Newbury.
A4 Padworth, Berkshire. Temporary lights at junction with A340.
M40 Buckinghamshire. Long-term roadworks with a contraflow between junctions 1a (M25) and 3 (Wycombe East).
A414 Hertfordshire. Roadworks on St Albans Road, Hemel Hempstead.
M2 Rochester, Kent. Roadworks with various lane closures.
M40 Oxfordshire. Resurfacing work between Watlington and Oxford. Drivers heading to junction 8 of the M40 from Oxford are advised to use the A40 and A418.
M25 Surrey. Restrictions and lane closures both ways between Reigate and A3.
A24 Findon Bypass, Lane closed northbound between Quadrangle and Long Furlong.

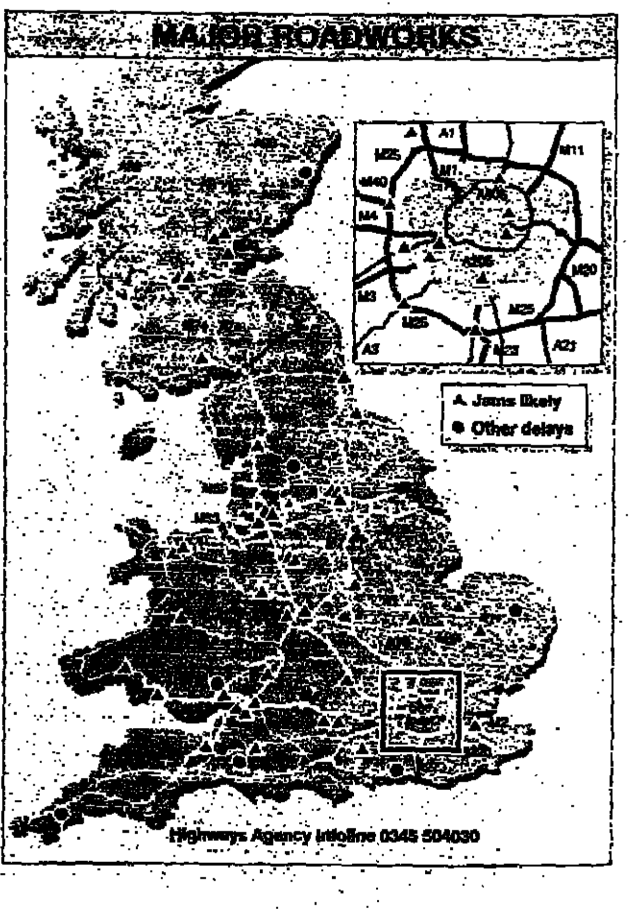
● **SOUTH-WEST**
A38 Old Bedminster Bridge, Bedminster. Major roadworks with lane closures on Bedminster roundabout.
M5 Bristol. Contraflow across Avonmouth bridge with 50mph limit.
A432 Downend Road, Bristol. Temporary lights at junction with Croomes Hill and Shrubbery Road.
A390 Cornwall. Lane restrictions in centre of Truro at the Trafalgar roundabout.
A417 Maisemore Bridge, Gloucestershire. Temporary lights during bridge work.
A356 Crewkerne. North Street closed. Diversions and delays.

● **MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA**
A1 between Alconbury Hill and Alwalton, Cambridgeshire. Construction work with lane closures, contraflow and 50mph limit.
A134 Stradsett, Norfolk, roadworks at A122 junction.
A1074 Norwich. Narrow lanes eastbound between Larkman Lane and Sweet Briar Road roundabout.
A52 Beeston, Nottinghamshire. Major roadworks on Derby Road. Expect delays between Sherwin Arms and Priory roundabouts.
A6 Leicestershire. Roadworks between M1 junction 24 and Sawley Island.
M54 Shropshire. Contraflow with westbound traffic on the shoulder. Eastbound on to lanes 1 and 2 of westbound carriageway.
A50 Stoke on Trent: major roadworks in the Meir area at junction with A520.
M6 Staffordshire. Contraflow between junctions 14 and 15.
A1101 Mildenhall, Suffolk, closed at Kingsway between Lark Road and Kings Street.

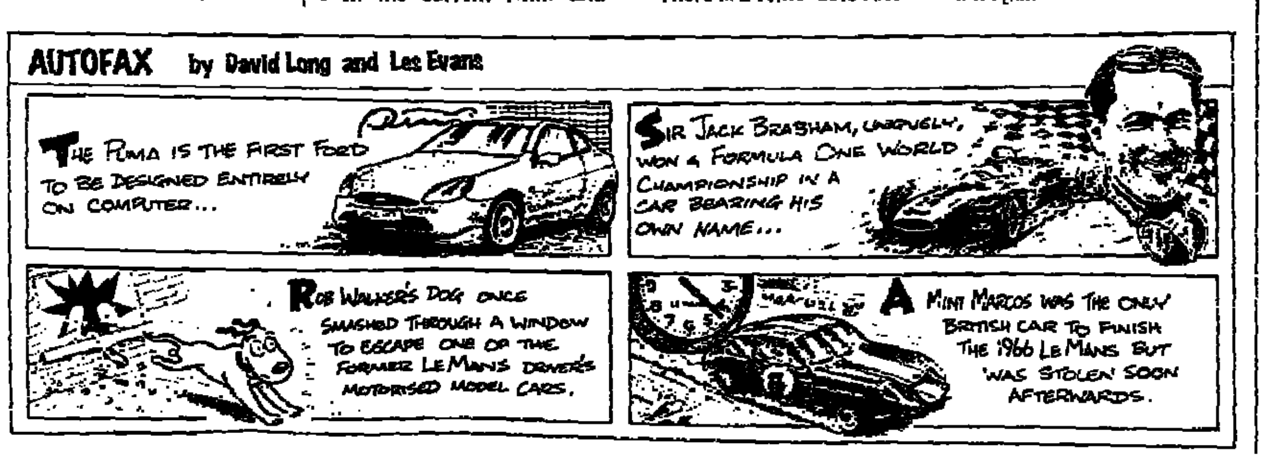
● **NORTH**
A579 Warrington. Winwick link road closed.
M6 Cumbria. One lane closed both ways between junctions 36 and 37.
A58 Westhougthon, Greater Manchester. Closed southbound on Park Road between A6 and Cricketers Way, and between the Chequerbent Roundabout and Wade Lane.
A19 between Thornaby-on-Tees and Billingham, Cleveland. Major roadworks with two lanes each way and 50mph limit.
M1 South Yorkshire. Long-term roadworks with 30mph limit at junction 47. Delays on M1, M621 and A653.
A134 Tyne and Wear. Contraflow on Felling bypass.
M1 West Yorkshire, junctions 43 to 42 Stourton to Lofthouse junction. Contraflow and 50mph limit.
M62 West Yorkshire. Contraflow and 50mph limit, junctions 28 to 29.

● **WALES**
A484 Carmarthenshire. Major roadworks on Francis Well in Tenerdy.
A449 Monmouthsire. Long delays between Usk junction and the M4 junction 24 at Newport.
A472 Torfaen. Contraflow at Pontypool.
A485 Carmarthenshire. Temporary lights at Duar Villa, Llanybyther.

● **SCOTLAND**
M9 Edinburgh. Long-term roadworks and restrictions on Newbridge roundabout.
A720 Edinburgh city bypass. Contraflow between Lothianburn and Dreghorn. On and off-ramps at Dreghorn closed.
M90 Friarton Bridge, Perth and Kinross. Contraflow.



AUTOFAX by David Long and Les Evans



THE PUMA IS THE FIRST FORD TO BE DESIGNED ENTIRELY ON COMPUTER...
SIR JACK BRABHAM, UNIQUELY, WON A FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN A CAR BEARING HIS OWN NAME...
ROB WALKER'S DOG ONCE SMASHED THROUGH A WINDOW TO ESCAPE ONE OF THE FORMER LE MANS DRIVER'S MOTORISED MODEL CARS.
A MINI MARCOS WAS THE ONLY BRITISH CAR TO FINISH THE 1966 LE MANS BUT WAS STOLEN SOON AFTERWARDS.

نسخة من الاصل

It's more moving house than camping: **Nick Nuttall** goes gadget-crazy in the luxurious Compass Drifter

Motorhome with a detached feel

STEVE HILL

Compass Drifter encourages laid-back driving and living: it comes with oven and fridge, double glazing, wardrobes, cocktail cabinets and an endlessly fascinating pump-action loo-cum-shower unit

It was hard to work out who was more excited: Nick Nuttall, aged 39 and-a-half, or Freddie Nuttall, aged four and three quarters, on climbing aboard the Compass Drifter.

Neither my son nor I have ever had an abiding interest in domestic appliances, but here two generations of Nuttall males were united in a quite bizarre scene of domestic bliss, poring over the fridge, pressing the sink's power pump and checking out the accommodation of the motorhome.

"Look daddy, I can sleep up here," said Freddie, pointing to a double sleeping bay above the cab which, like a bunk bed or ship's cabin, was reached by clambering up a ladder.

His enthusiasm for "our new home" became uncontained at the sight of the loo-cum-shower, tucked away at the back behind a little door.

"Daddy there's toilet and it has a shower too," an astonished son cooed. And, for almost a week in which we plied the lanes of Herefordshire in the vehicle, it seemed my son and his two-and-a-half year old sister, Tara, had been smitten with tummy bugs.

Every second they were not clambering up to the bedroom, they were diving into the loo from where it took ever increasing amounts of sweeties to prise them out.

The appeal of a motorhome is not hard to appreciate. There is something of the Gypsy somewhere in everyone and, with all the mod-cons of a four-star hotel, you and the family can pop off anytime but without the fear of a giant bill looming for even the most modest guest house bed-and-breakfast stay.

Freddie might have also put his finger on it by calling it a boat on wheels. There is certainly a nautical feel with bunk beds and galley-style kitchen.

In truth this was not the first one I had ever encountered, having many more years in the past than I care to remember, driven across Colorado in a Winnebago. But this was the first time in Britain along winding country roads.

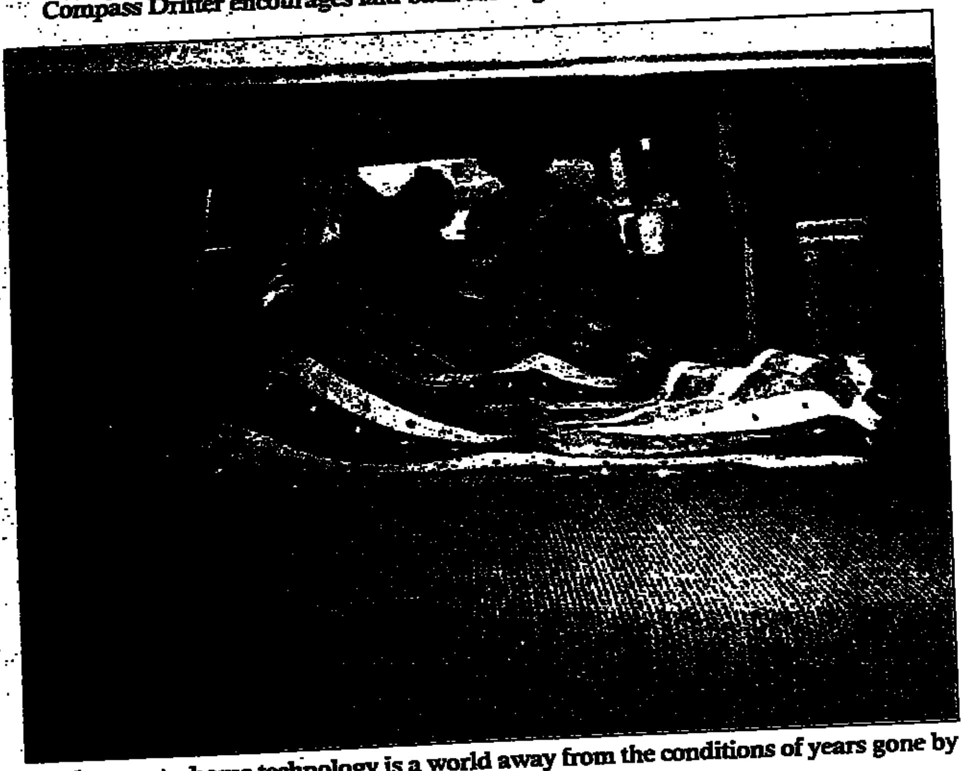
You are almost forced into a leisurely pace, not just by the congestion but by the fact that travelling at speed round tight bends can engender a sense of nausea akin to seasickness for anyone travelling in the rear of the motorhome.

That said, the vehicle offered a pleasant refuge in an interminable traffic jam in Cheltenham where, cocking a snook at fellow motorists tumbling towards road rage, we simply pulled on to the side of the road and put the kettle on for a brew-up.

According to the Motor Caravan Information Service in Haywards Heath, west Sussex, there are more than 100,000 motorhomes or motor caravans in Britain, with steady sales since the mid-1970s of between 3,000 to 4,000 a year.

The Compass Drifter, built around the chassis of a Peugeot Boxer van, is towards the top end of the market and shows how, since the days of the old campers, like the trusty Volkswagens and Dormobiles, design and technology have come on apace.

The interior of the Drifter 360E, which is a mixture of softwoods, carpets and plush well-upholstered seats, also has television points and heaters that can be powered by onboard gas cylinders, mains electric or onboard batteries. A four-ring gas cooker big enough to hold a family roast, and an electronic ignition fridge, powered by either gas or electric, are also installed.



Modern motorhome technology is a world away from the conditions of years gone by

Then there are other touches, like blinds on double-glazed windows, cocktail cabinets, a wardrobe and of course that endlessly fascinating pump-action, loo-cum-shower unit.

The vehicle slept five people but can carry up to 12, which means it they can be handy for friends and family trekking off for day trips to the seaside or the races.

Paul Carter, editor of *Motor Caravan Magazine*, says there remain some buyers of motorhomes who shun all the high-technology gadgets. But most people now demand these comforts so that they can head off for half the year rather than merely use the vehicle for the summer.

"A lot of people just take off for, say, Spain and spend November to March there in their motor caravan. There is little doubt that they are now versatile," he says.

An increasing number of young people are now buying motorhomes, but the market remains dominated by the middle-aged affluents and the retired — probably because of the price. The 2-litre petrol-powered vehicle I drove costs £28,283.

Carter says a large slice of the market comprises former caravan enthusiasts who, perhaps for health reasons or because they no longer want the hassle of lifting a caravan on to towing equipment, trade up to a motorhome.

They may also sell the family car and use the motorhome as their sole vehicle for daily use as well as for going off on holiday.

Some companies are now turning small Japanese vans into motorhomes for around £10,000 . . . but they are small affairs, nothing like our majestic home on wheels.

TOURING DO'S

■ **CHECK YOUR TYRES**. Caravans parked for weeks should have their wheels removed and be left on blocks — but that rarely happens. Tyres develop a flat spot, resulting in early tread wear. Check treads and inflate tyres properly — and those of the towing car, which could need an extra 4psi in the rear, according to the National Tyre Distributors' Association.

■ **ENSURE THE CAR** is up to the job. Underpowered minis cannot be expected to pull caravans the size of Buckingham Palace. Ensure, too, that the car has been serviced and checked.

■ **CHECK SHOCK ABSORBERS**. Monroe, the shock absorber manufacturer, says the weight of passengers and luggage can play havoc with the stability of the car-caravan package. The rearward weight forces the joint between the two down, leading to loss of traction in front-wheel cars or "snaking" when the car and van wander around the road. Monroe offers Ride-Leveller shock absorbers which can be inflated to cope with the extra loads.

■ **SECURE YOUR CARAVAN**. A wide range of equipment, from special locks to electronic tags is available, so that you can ensure you stay connected with your travelling possession.

■ **CONSIDER A STABILISER** to prevent the caravan rolling over. The sight of a van on its side yet still connected to the car is all too familiar. Try Trapezium Developments (01737 832 187). But never substitute a stabiliser for basic stability of car and van.

■ **GET BREAKDOWN COVER**. Even if you can make a cup of tea on the hard shoulder of the M6 to pass the time, the kids won't want to spend the entire holiday there.

TOURING DON'TS

■ **DON'T IGNORE FOLLOWING** traffic, so invest in some extended rearward mirrors (which must not project more than 200mm outside the width of the caravan when towed, or the width of the car when solo). No wonder drivers get vexed when they are trailing a caravanner oblivious to everything going on somewhere behind the kitchen sink.

■ **DON'T BRING THE HOUSE** along with you on holiday. Piling the pans, cutlery and everything but the kitchen sink to one corner of the caravan is packing for disaster. Instead, put heavy items over the axle, spreading medium-heavy items out towards the corners on the floor. Lighter items can go up into the cupboards, out of the way.

■ **GET OVER-CONFIDENT** at your peril. Remember the maximum motorway speed is 60mph, 50mph on single carriageways. Always reduce speed going downhill and particularly when there are crosswinds, which could do a good deal more than blow you off course for a happy holiday.

■ **DON'T FORGET TO ENSURE** the towing hitch is properly connected, or you could have a face as red as the caravanner who reached the Calais ferry check-in, presented his tickets to be asked: "Allo, monsieur, but where is your caravan?" Answer: about a hundred miles back down the road. He forgot it.

■ **AND DON'T BANISH** your mother-in-law to the caravan when her toffee-chewing and constant blether gets on your nerves. She probably constitutes a heavy weight and therefore could not be sensibly stowed in the trailer. Sorry, but you will have to put up with her for the duration.

Caravanners might be thought to get involved in lots of accidents, but statistics prove exactly the opposite

Camping and Caravan Club runs driving courses

The berth of a beautiful new relationship

British motorists are learning how to love the caravan. Road rage from solo drivers — traditionally conditioned to regard mobile homes as itinerant roadblocks — is on the wane.

So much so that vanning enthusiasts would welcome a chance to meet the man who founded the Anti-Caravan Club five years ago.

"Where are you now?" they are asking of John Williams, who got stuck behind a broken-down caravan in the spring of 1992 and launched a campaign dedicated to keeping vans off the road from dawn to dusk.

Hundreds of motorists rushed to join his club. Unfortunately for them, tens of thousands more joined the Camping and Caravanning Club (founded 1901, patron Prince Phillip).

Bob Stanton, the club's spokesman, says: "Since Mr Williams formed his club, our membership has shot up by 30 per cent to 280,000 and we haven't heard much from him lately. Perhaps he has become discouraged by the fact that the motorists' perceived view of caravans is no longer blindly antagonistic. At long last, drivers are becoming more understanding, starting to get more tolerant."

Stanton and his club can take much of the credit for this — running an enlightened damage-limitation education programme.

CAR 97 can bring him more good news from a survey of road accidents in Cambridgeshire, due to be published next month. Researchers were surprised to discover what a tiny percentage of accidents involve caravans or were blamed on caravans.

An AA spokesman says: "The caravan did not show up in accident statistics as a significant factor — which appears to be vastly different from what was expected. Anecdotally, you always hear people complaining about caravans getting in the way and making motorists take risks when overtaking. That did not come back in the study and the whole report is very kind to caravans.

"Part of this may well be to do with new motorways, dual-carriageways and bypasses making caravans safer by giving them straighter roads to drive on.

"There are about 300 accidents involving injury a year where one of the vehicles involved is towing a caravan. There are about 300,000 cars a year involved in road accidents where someone is injured. There are more than 22 million cars on the road and half a million caravans which means there is one car to 50-odd caravans."

Bob Stanton was delighted when *CAR 97* told him what the survey is going to report, and pointed to the £40 one-day courses organised by the club. Biggest nightmare for drivers is how to reverse with a caravan. The club's course doesn't just teach you how to back into a simple space, it makes you practice doing weaving in and out of a slalom of traffic cones.

An illustration of the new attitude comes from last weekend's mammoth traffic jam that the Sunday newspapers reported stretched 45 miles from Gloucester to Exeter on the M5. A bit of an exaggeration, said Devon and Cornwall police, but that the AA reported frayed tempers and frequent shunting accidents.

But nobody blamed caravans. A police patrolman reports: "Caravans caused no problem at all. We welcome them for bringing tourists into the area. We put on roadshows for them and we will be at Earls Court this year promoting caravan safety."

He adds, "The West Country probably has more caravans than any other English tourist area and the police here are in the front line of the campaign to accommodate them. Caravans are traffic. Our job is to police traffic and this particular time of year allows us to focus on caravanners. We want to generate a climate of respect and trust, and we have no reason to say that caravans are anything other than welcome here."

Caravan manoeuvring courses: Bradford and Peebles on October 11 and 12. Contact Bob Stanton, Greenfields House, Westwood Way, Coventry, CV4 8HJ. Tel 01203 694995, Fax 01203 694886.

AUTHORISED DEALERSHIPS AT A GLANCE

IF YOU CANNOT FIND THE VEHICLE YOU DESIRE CONTACT YOUR AUTHORISED DEALER LISTED BELOW

Alfa Romeo

HAMPSHIRE - Cleveland Cars Ltd Ash St (A323) Ash, Aldershot Hampshire GU12 6LZ. Phone 01252 334055

STAFFORDSHIRE - Pieris of Longton Lightwood Rd Longton Stoke on Trent, Staffs, ST3 4JG. Tel: Les Ross on 01782 599400

ASTON MARTIN

KENT - Lancaster Sevenoaks Ltd 92 London Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1BA David Bradshaw 01732 456300

NORWICH - Stratton Motor Company (Norfolk) Ltd Ipswich Rd Long Stratton. Charlie Skelton Tel: 01508 530491

SURREY - H.W.M. LIMITED at New Zealand Avenue, Walton on Thames, Surrey, KT12 1AT. Paul Spires 01932 220404

Audi

LONDON - SCOTTS AUDI 214 Pavillion Road, London SW1X 0AN. Sales Tel 0171 730 2131. Services Tel 0171 730 5464

BMW

HERTFORDSHIRE - Specialist Cars London Road, Stevenage, Herts. Tel 01438 750200 Web http://www.specialistcars.co.uk/bmw/

LONDON - MLG of CHISWICK at 492 - 496 Chiswick High Road, London, W4 5TT. Please call 0181 995 1693

LONDON - BATES IN LONDON at 289 - 299 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall Bridge, London SE1. 0171 582 6000

ASTON MARTIN

BMW

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE - SYTNER DIRECT 165 Huntingdon Street, NG1 3NH. Used Car Manager Mel Smith 0115 924 1144

SURREY - Coombs of Guildford Slyfield Green Estate, Woking Road, Guildford GU1 1RD Freephone 0800 269 495

CATERHAM CARS

DERBYSHIRE - John Noble Motorsport Unit 21 Station Lane Ind Est, Old Whittington Chesterfield. 01246 453987

FIAT

HAMPSHIRE - Cleveland Cars Ltd Ash St (A323) Ash, Aldershot Hampshire GU12 6LZ. Phone 01252 334055

HONDA

KENT - WHITEHOUSE HONDA 20 Broadway, Bexley Heath, Kent. DA6 7LN. Tel: 0181 303 8383 Fax: 0181 301 5763

Jeep

DORSET - Meridien Majestic Garage Ltd Wallisdown, Bournemouth, BH11 8QE. Contact Kevin Butt 01202 525111

JAGUAR

CAMBRIDGESHIRE - Marshall Peterborough Tyrrell Park, Bourges PE1 5FT Alan Wensak 01733 318385

KENT - Lancaster Sevenoaks Ltd 92 London Rd. email:jaguar@sevenoaks.lancasterplc.com 01732 456300

LONDON - WOODFORD JAGUAR 50 - 56 High Road, Woodford, London, E18 1AS. Steve Russell 0181 503 8644

LONDON - Stratstone of Mayfair 40 Berkeley Street, London, W1X 6EN Stewart Banks 0171 629 4404. Sun 0468 505872

WEST MIDLANDS - COLLIERS at 166 -168 Birmingham Rd, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1BX Keith Gallaghan 0121 355 5151

WEST YORKSHIRE - Appleyard Jaguar Bradford Northbrook Street, Canal Road, BD1 4RQ Mike Smith 01274 394439

WEST YORKSHIRE - Perrys Jaguar Northgate, Huddersfield, HD1 OAP. Contact Howard Jessop 01484 481200

LAND-ROVER

LONDON - LANCASTER CITY at 68 - 70 High Street, Stratford, E15 2NE New and Used Models 0181 522 0022

LEXUS

BERKSHIRE - Currie Motors Boss Kiln Lane, Reading. Mike Miller www.lexus.co.uk/curriemotors 01734 758877

LONDON - HASSOP LEXUS 291/295 Willesden Lane, London, NW2 5HY. Call Ferdy Gottschall 0181 459 0005

SHEFFIELD - Monty's of Sheffield, 260 Penistone Road, Sheffield. Please Contact David Pepper on 01142 855555

LOTUS

DERBYSHIRE - Peter Smith Sports Cars. Station Road, Hatton, in Derby, Derbyshire, DE6 5HL. Tel: 01283 813583

DERBYSHIRE - Peter Smith Sports Cars. Station Road, Hatton, in Derby, Derbyshire, DE6 5HL. Tel: 01283 813583

mazda

LONDON - CURRIE MOTORS Wimbledon 165 The Broadway Wimbledon, SW19. Please call 0181 543 1131

MERCEDES

BERKSHIRE - SUNNINGDALE CARRIAGE COMPANY London Road, Berkshire. Telephone 01344 871200

ESSEX - London Road Mercedes Tel: 01708 730424/ Fax: 01708 748855. Visit at www.londonroad.co.uk

ESSEX - London Road Mercedes 20-26 London Road, Romford. Tony Consuegra Sales Manager T: 01708 730424/Fax 748855

LONDON: BRADSHAW WEBB LTD Wandsworth Bridge, South London SW18 1TB. Call Mike Hutchinson 0171 483 7705

MASERATI

BOURNEMOUTH - MERIDIEN MASERATI. 520 Wallisdown Rd, Wallisdown, Bournemouth. BH11 8QE. 01202 525111.

MITSUBISHI

GLOUCESTERSHIRE - Mitsubishi Motors Cirencester Elliot Road, Cirencester, Glos, GL7 1YS. 01285 655739

MOTOR WEY MITSUBISHI Putney London SW15 0181 871 1122. Weybridge, Surrey, 01932 857911. Open 7 Days

SOMERSET - Tinknell Mitsubishi Main Road, Cannington, Bridgwater, Somerset TA5 2LF. John Horgan 01278 652244

SURREY - COURT & SMITH LTD Fishers House, Portsmouth Rd, Ripley, Nr Woking, Surrey. 01483 222184

SURREY - MOTOR WEY MITSUBISHI Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 2RW. Please telephone 01932 857911. Open 7 Days

WORCESTERSHIRE - Fields of Bromsgrove Sanders Road, Bromsgrove B61 7DG. Contact Peter Field on 01527 878877

MORGAN

SCOTLAND - Thomson & Potter Burrelton, Blairgowrie, Nr Perth Morgan Hire in the Highlands. 01828 670247

PORSCHE

NORTH EAST - JCT600 Newcastle Silverlink Park, Wallsend, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, NE28 9ND. Tel: 0191 295 1234

ROLLS-ROYCE

BERKSHIRE - Mead of Burnham 367 Bath Road, Slough Berks SL1 5QA. Contact Peter Ingram 01628 668361

LONDON - Jack Barclay Ltd. Berkeley Square, W1X 6AH. Nine Elms, London SW8 5BA. Tel: 0171 629 7444

SAAB

KENT - WHITEHOUSE SAAB 20 Broadway, Bexley Heath, Kent. DA6 7LN. Tel: 0181 304 4431 Fax: 0181 301 5789

SEAT

OXFORDSHIRE - CORNERHOUSE. Wootton Road, Abingdon, Oxon. Contact Pat Minns Anytime on 01865 735121

SEAT

WARWICKSHIRE - G.D.T.AUTOS, Scott Road, Kenilworth. Best leasing & contract hire. Tel/Fax 07000 11 SEAT / 01926 854831

SUZUKI

HIRE - D.G.L Garages Littleworth Road, Downley High Wycombe HP13 5XH Gary Rush 01494 451894

TVR

HERTFORDSHIRE - The TVR Centre Barnet Road, Arkley, Herts, EN5 3LJ. Peter Smith 0181 440 5686

VOLVO

VOLKSWAGEN

ESSEX - BRISTOL STREET VW Sales, Service, Parts & Rental. 144 London Road, Romford, Essex, RM7 9QL. 01708 722345

KENT - Whitehouse Volkswagen 139 Blendon Road, Bexley, Kent, DA5 1BZ. Tel: 0181 301 3050 Fax: 0181 304 9868

LONDON - Scotts Of Stockwell 189 Clapham Road, London SW9 0QE Sales, Service & Parts Tel 0171 737 7133

VOLVO

LONDON - Volvo Car Southbank 50 New Kent Road, London, SE1 6TW. Sales, Service & Parts 0171 252 7000

LONDON - TRIANGLE VOLVO at 65 - 67 Stamford Hill, London, N16 5TL. Call Mike O'Connor 0181 800 0411

THE TIMES

DEALERSHIPS AT A GLANCE

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(Source: NRS Aug - Jan '97)

THE TIMES

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DB7 Automatic 95N Chiltern Green/Grey Leather, 1 Owner 10,000 miles £63,000 GRAYPAUL: 01509 232233

DB7 VOLANTE Auto (96P) Grampian Green, Parchment, Leather piped Green, 7,000 miles. £76,500. GRAYPAUL: 01509 232233

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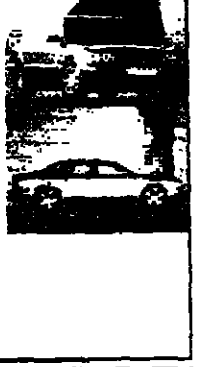

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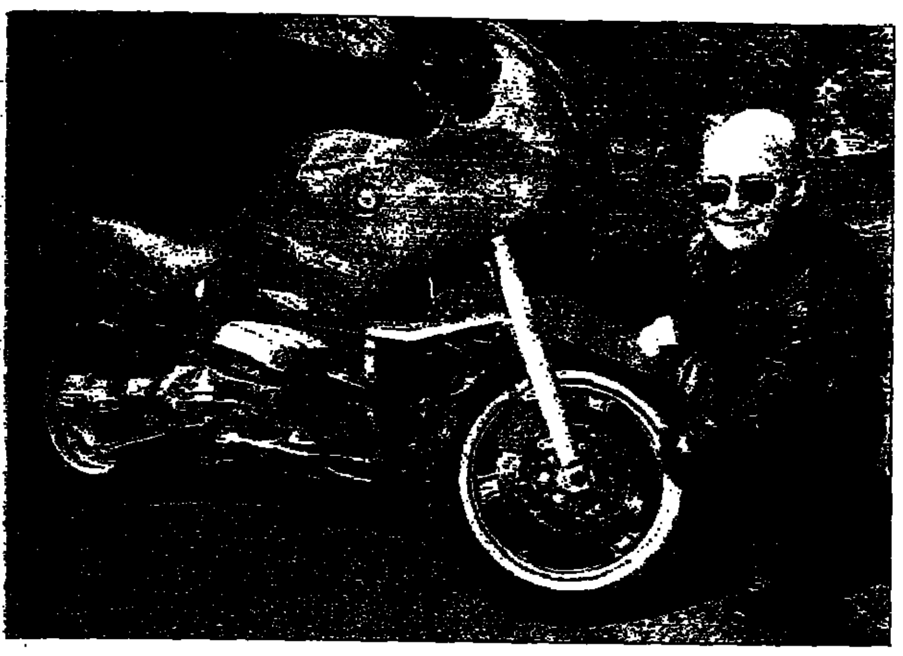
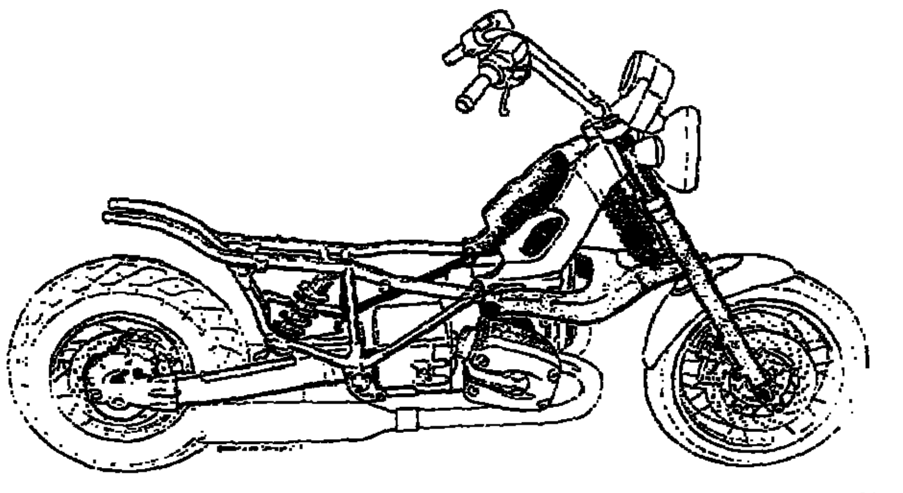
MOTORCYCLE MONTH IN THE TIMES: BIKING BARRISTERS AND A SOLICITOR ON SUSPENSION

Purley bathtime creates shock for prize BMW cruiser

A retired London solicitor's inspiration led to a radical new bike design, says

John Naish





Hugh Nicol with the BMW he got for his suspension idea, above

Our prize BMW R1200 C cruiser motorcycle boasts an eclectic range of design inspirations, but none is stranger than a bathtub in the south London suburb of Purley.

A good soak and a rubber duck have been renowned since Archimedes' time for their capacity to prompt creative thought, and it was amid the soap and the steam that solicitor Hugh Nicol hit on the idea that was to become a design highlight on the new BMW Cruiser: its innovative — and highly effective — Telelever front suspension system.

Thus Britain is responsible for the thinking behind this smart piece of German engineering, which succeeds in separating the braking and shock-absorbing functions of conventional systems, thereby banishing the usual problem of front-end dive under hard stopping, which can throw a bike off line if the rider hits the anchors in the middle of a corner.

But the bathtub was not the only unlikely player in Nicol's breakthrough — the other was his son's Japanese moped. Nichol, an inveterate dabbler in things mechanical, realised the need for a new front-end design for motorcycles when he took his son's new 50cc runabout for a test-drive.

"I thought it was dreadful," he recalls. "The conventional forks were horribly flimsy and I was alarmed to see them bend when I hit the brakes. The little bike also understeered badly going around corners and I thought I might end up having an accident if I went any faster."

Then followed a long period of hard thinking, mostly while commuting by rail betweeen Purley and Nicol's workplace at Taylor Woodrow. "For ages I thought about basing the solution on the wishbone suspension used on cars, but in the end, the solution was so obvious I could not see it. I was sitting in the bath when it came to me — I had to ask my wife to bring in a pencil and paper."

While Archimedes' original bathtime eureka revealed that a body's weight immersed in water equalled the weight of the displaced liquid, Nicol's was rather more complex. It combined conventional-looking telescopic forks with an arm that links the fork bridge to the frame. This effectively shifts the braking forces away from the shock absorbers, and transmits them instead into the engine block.

Nicol then sat at that other mainstay of scientific progress — the kitchen table — and set to work. "Perhaps others had had the idea before but saw the technical drawbacks and thought them insuperable. I thought I would give it a go, however, and did some sketches and some preliminary work with a compass," he says. "My calculations showed that there would be some variation of fork angle on braking, and there were other possbly adverse effects, but they would only be mild."

Nicol thought that his proposed system would be best applied to lightweight motorcycles, and wrote to several major motorcycle builders describing the idea: none of the Japanese companies bothered to reply, and Harley-Davidson said its customers were perfectly happy with the traditional design.

BMW asked to see the details, but all did not go well, however. "They said, 'It's a lovely idea, but it won't work because the changes the front suspension underwent in operation would be too violent.'"

The concept did not die there, however, and British racing enthusiasts Phil Todd and Nigel Hill built an identical idea on to their Motodd Laverda. Motorcycle journalists pronounced it a success, so Nicol sent BMW a copy of the reports. The company's engineers reconsidered the design, then put in some serious work modifying and developing it using computer simulations. They found it could be bolted easily on to the front of their boxer engines.

The timing was a happy coincidence: the German company had been searching for a replacement for its conventional front-fork design, which was proving less and less able to cope with modern engine power and tyre technology.

The new system was fitted on to BMW's R1100 RS, the first of the new generation of completely new boxers, as part of a revamp that also featured a new engine and rear swinging arm.

Nicol, now 65 and retired, is shy about his financial arrangement with the Bavarian manufacturer, but extremely proud to show off the R1100 RS it presented to him. It was the second off the production line to be delivered — the first went to King Hussein of Jordan on the same day. However, says Nicol, the king was not presented his until his evening birthday party. "So I got mine on the road first."

The system has now become a staple of boxers, but it is usually tucked away from view. For the Cruiser, BMW is showing it off as a proudly polished detail — an icon of forward-thinking Teutonic design. So far, Nicol reports, he has not been beset by German bikers demanding to turn his bath into a shrine. But perhaps, now BMW is being so upfront about what its got up front, that could change.

Final prize-draw token, today

Helen Mound meets the low-flying legal eagles who leave their midlife crises in a cloud of burnt rubber

PAUL DEBOIS/TOP GEAR MAGAZINE

Motor Cycle and Car Folly members spend weekends tearing around tracks on flash bikes like Ducatis and Bimotas costing up to £20,000. Women may be banned from the club after a recent accident

Rich men blow their wigs off

You might not expect to see such professional people tearing up the Tarmac at terrifying speeds; indeed you would normally expect to see them in silk, rather than leather, but the lure of the motorcycle is such that devotees lurk in the most unlikely social niches.

Members of the Motor Cycle and Car Folly — founded for the "professional classes with more money than sense" — are part of a growing trend for high-achieving professionals to turn to two wheels for their excitement.

While some modern-day born-again bikers claim they have moved to two wheels to escape the misery of traffic jams, others candidly admit that throwing a leg over a bike with a powerplant as big as a car engine, and often more powerful, is more to do with using fun and danger to stave off their mid-life crises.

Whatever the reason, today's biker is just as likely to wear a suit and work in the City as they are to be an oily, leather-clad teenager.

Nearly 75 per cent of people who took their motorcycle test last year were over the age of 30 and in the past 18 months, sales of high-powered motorbikes increased more than 60 per cent, the majority sold to professionals who can write cheques for £10,000 without breaking the bank.

In the past two years, the Motor Cycle and Car Folly has seen its membership double. Founded by Mark Finburgh and Martin Reybould, the club's original biking lawyers, there has been no need to search out new recruits with 700 now signed up.

"We started with just a handful of friends six years ago, as a bit of a laugh and it's just gone from strength to strength without us even trying," says Mark, who works in London.

Originally aimed at solicitors and barristers, it now accepts any breed of well-to-do biker. "We'll let any old riff-raff in now; bankers, doctors, accountants, surgeons," says Mark. "It's not a cheap pastime. It is very easy to spend around £2,000 on one of our events and we have one every month in the summer. And the bikes alone cost between £10,000 and £20,000."

So, the riff-raff have managed to get in — but what about that other growing breed of bikers — women? Mark thinks for a while, to formulate a suitably legalistic and objective answer: "We have a few women — but we're thinking of banning them." Ah, so refreshingly and wholly politically incorrect — but not without logic in this slightly eccentric company of bikers.

Co-founder Martin recently suffered a collision with "a severely out-of-control lady rider", says Mark. "It was our first major collision in six years and now Martin thinks we should ban them."

Weekend events can involve taking over a racetrack and a hotel . . . and generally having a jolly good time. Mark explains: "It's a social thing. We hire Brands Hatch or another circuit like Donington or Oulton Park. That costs about £15,000. We all meet for dinner the night before, stay in a hotel, and the next day we thrash round the track."

Numbers are restricted by track regulations and can vary from 20 at Goodwood to 60 at Brands Hatch.

The top three superbikes favoured by Folly members and the new biking-gentility are the £8,000 Suzuki TL1000S, the £10,000 Triumph T595 (with a claimed top speed of 160mph and 0 to 60mph in three seconds) and the £13,000 Ducati 916 (currently enjoying high demand in Hollywood). Other popular marques with enthusiasts include BMW and Moto Guzzi.

Mark's collection is more eclectic, including two Ducati-powered Bimota sportsbikes and a Ducati 900 Isle of Man TT replica.

"I got my first bike much against my father's wishes but I said, 'Dad, I'm 40 years old and I think it's time I made my own decisions.' That was a Honda 125, then I moved on to the much more powerful Ducati."

Martin had a more traditional introduction to biking. Like many of the breed of reborn bikers, he started when he was a teenager before the pressures of adulthood and a family forced him to opt for a car. Now in his 50s with a wife and four children, he has returned to bikes for a bit of fun, a way of rekindling a little of the lost excitement of youth. His current two-wheeled beast is a Honda RC30.

Ask Mark what he'd recommend to a middle-aged professional who wants a superbike and he suggests a Honda Fireblade: "It's a fabulous bike. Reliable, fast, stunning-looking." This is not a surprising choice, given Honda claims that 10 per cent of customers for its 900cc Fireblade are aged over 50.

In spite of the Folly members' gung-ho enthusiasm, some of the growing trend for motorcycle ownership is showing in the accident as well as the sales figures. The Department of Transport claims that deaths among 30 to 50-year-old bikers have risen by more than half in the past decade.

But dealers claim that motorbike sales to the under-30s have dropped just as dramatically because of rising insurance costs.

Mark is quick to point out that his hobby is a relatively safe one: "We've only ever had one injury in six years at the racetracks and that was when an orthopaedic surgeon fell off and broke his thumb. Luckily his qualifications meant he could tell the ambulance crew exactly what needed doing."

The Motor Cycle and Car Folly: 0118 988 7242.

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MOTORBIKE NEWS IN BRIEF

Peak-time for thieves

■ THEFT is costing motorcycle dealers £90 million a year in lost spares trading. Criminals are stealing bikes and scooters to strip them and sell the components as spares at a huge profit. This is the peak time of year for crime, when bike theft can jump by as much as 30 per cent.

Even though bikers are now spending £10 million a year on security equipment, the motorcycle industry is warning them to take extra precuations to ensure their machines stay where they were parked.

Equipment sold under the Sold Secure scheme has the industry's approval on quality of manufacture and effectiveness, and can bring the bonus of a reduction in insurance premiums. The scheme's highest standard, Attack 5, brings the best reductions, which could be worth a saving of 12.5 per cent on an £800 insurance premium.

Premium's 24-hour line

■ A 24-HOUR insurance service for bikers has been launched by Premium Search. The telephone lines are not only open for emergencies but also to provide quotes for bikers wanting to discover whether they can find cheaper rates. The company acted after receiving 300 calls a week from bikers looking for insurance.

Premium Search insurance: 0990 134 920.

■ BORN-AGAIN bikers are being warned to seek training before returning to two wheels. The Motorcycle Rider Training Association says weekend bikers could be surprised by the power of their machines. More than 223,000 motorcycles sold last year were 500cc or over. Kevin Kelly, the association's director, says: "Mature bikers, after being trapped in their company cars all week, might not possess skills to get the most out of their powerful machines."

MRTA: 0171-307 3409.

Show time at the NEC

■ FOR A LOOK at the latest in motorcycle and scooter fashions, the International Motor Cycle Show opens from November 7 to 16 at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. First day is preview day, with admission prices at £25, while tickets for the rest of the show are £12 for adults and £5 for children aged 11 to 16 and pensioners. Advance bookings bring a £2 reduction in adult ticket prices.

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94M	XJ6 3.2 S King/Doe	A/C	35T	£21,495
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K	Sov 4.0 Solent, 49T	£17,995
K	Sov 4.0 Jade, 38T	£14,995
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93 K	**280TE** Blue Black/Grey Cloth, Auto, F/Seat, HLWW	£22,950
96 N	**E36** Green Black/Grey Hide, Big Spec, Ex Demo	£43,950
94 L	**E220 Coupe** Nautic Blue/Mushroom Hide, Auto, RHR	£25,950
94 M	**E320 Coupe** Azurite Blue/Mushroom Hide, ASR, AC	£33,950
96 N	**E220 Cabriolet** Azurite/Mushroom Hide, Only 2,500 miles	£41,950
94 L	**E320 Cabriolet** Blue Black/Mushroom 5 Speed, AC, S/L	£42,350
95 N	**S320** Blue Black/Mushroom, 5 Speed Auto, 8H, Closers	£40,950
96 N	**S320L** Green Black/Mushroom, Closing Aids	£40,950
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87 E	**500SL** Nautic/Cream Hide, Rear Seat, AC, Only 17K	£31,950
91 H	**500SL** Nautic Blue/Cream Hide, Air Conditioning, R/S	£44,950
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97 P	**C180 Elegance** Azurite Blue/Blue Cloth, Auto, AC	10T	£23,450
97 P	**C230 Elegance** B.Silver/Grey Cloth, AC, CC, EW	8T	£28,950
96 P	**C230 Elegance Est.** Tourmaline/Mush Cloth, Auto, AC	5T	£30,350
96 P	**C250TD Elegance** Azurite Blue/Grey Cloth, Auto	16T	£25,950
95 M	**E200** Azurite Blue/Grey Cloth, Auto, FEW, ESR	3T	£19,750
97 P	**E200 Classic Est.** Tourmaline/Grey Cloth, RFS, EW	2T	£28,950
93 L	**E220 Estate** Pearl Blue/Blue Cloth, Auto, EW, ESR	55T	£18,950
96 P	**E230 Elegance** B.Silver/Blk Cloth, AC, Auto, 10HA	14T	£31,350
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97 P	**E230 Elegance Est.** Green Blk/Mush Lthr, AC, EW	16T	£35,950
97 P	**E230 Elegance Est.** Aquamarine/Blue Cloth, Auto, AC	3T	£34,950
96 P	**E300D Avantgarde** Violane/Blk Cloth, Auto, EW, CC	9T	£29,950
94 M	**E36 Coupe** Blue Black/Grey Lthr, Auto, AC, EW, CC	38T	£35,950
96 P	**E320 Avantgarde** Azurite Blue/Grey Lthr, Auto, AC	10T	£37,950
97 P	**E320 Avantgarde (V6)** Amazon Green/Grey Lthr, AC	7T	£42,950
95 N	**E320 Coupe** Tourmaline/Mush Lthr, Auto, EW, AC	23T	£39,350
92 J	**300SL** Signal Red/Mushroom Lthr, 8HA, Rr, Child St	27T	£33,950
94 M	**SL320** B Silver/Black Lthr, Auto, Elec. Sts, Cruise	17T	£49,950
96 N	**SL320 Mille Mig** Silver/Red Leather, Rear Seat, CC	16T	£58,950
95 N	**S420 Coupe** Azurite Blue/Mushroom Lthr, Auto, CIS	7T	£63,950
95 N	**SL500** Azurite Blue/Grey Lthr, Climate, E/Mem Sts	19T	£62,950
96	**SL500** Green Black/Grey Lthr, Climate, 5 Spd Auto	4T	£69,950
96 P	**SL600** Azurite Blue/Blk Lthr, Climate, Elec/Mem Sts	15T	£73,950
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94 M	**C180 Classic** White/Black Cloth, Auto, ESR	10T	£17,950
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97 P	**C200 Elegance** Ruby Red/Black Cloth, Auto, AC	6T	£24,950
97 P	**C230 Komp. Sport** Green Black/Blk Cloth, Auto, AC	3T	£28,350
97 P	**C280 Sport** Silver/Black Leather, Auto, AC, EFS	3T	[illegible]
97 P	**C250TD Elegance** Aqua/Grey Cloth, Auto, AC	9T	£26,950
97 P	**C180 Elegance Est.** Silver/Black Cloth, Auto, AC	3T	£24,950
97 P	**C180 Elegance Est.** Green Black/Grey Cloth, Auto, AC	5T	£24,350
97 P	**C200 Sport Est.** Silver/Black Cloth, Auto, AC	19T	£25,950
97 P	**C250TD Elegance Est.** Violane/Grey Cloth, Auto, AC	5T	£29,950
97 P	**E200 Elegance** Azurite/Black Cloth, Auto, ESR	8T	£27,950
97 P	**E230 Elegance** Aqua/Grey Cloth, Auto, AC	9T	£31,450
97 P	**E230 Elegance** Green Black/Grey Cloth, Auto, AC	11T	£31,450
97 P	**E230 Elegance** Ruby Red/Black Cloth, Auto, AC	11T	£31,450
95 N	**E320 Elegance** Tourmaline/Grey Lthr, V High Spec	19T	£35,950
96 N	**E320 Elegance** Malachite/Mushroom Lthr High Spec	18T	£36,450
97 P	**E320 Elegance V6** Silver/Black Leather, High Spec	2T	£42,550
96 N	**E230 Elegance Est.** Azurite/Grey Cloth, Auto, AC	11T	£32,950
97 P	**E230 Elegance Est.** Ruby Red/Mushroom Cloth Auto	13T	£33,950
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94L	C250D Elegance Auto r/st	40T	£19,995
97P	C250D Elegance Auto met, r/st, c/c, srs	10T	£25,995
92K	190E 2.0 Auto met, 8 holes, esr, r/st	47T	£14,995
94M	E200T Auto esr, ew, 7 seats, eds, rst	37T	£22,995
93L	E220 Auto met, esr, ew, r/st	37T	£19,495
94M	E220 Auto ar, cig, esr, r/st	42T	£20,495
95M	E220T Auto r/s, esr, ew, r/st, tex	33T	£25,995
96N	E230 Elegance Auto met, hide, rst	13T	£29,995
94L	E280 Auto met, hide, eds, 8 holes, r/st	46T	£22,995
95M	E320 Auto met, hide, r/st	29T	£27,995
97P	E320 Elegance Auto met, hide, ar, r/st	5T	£41,995
94M	E320 T Auto met, hide, ar, els, r/s, cd	24T	£34,995
94L	E320 Auto met, hide, ar, cc, 8 holes, eds, cd	34T	£27,995
97P	V230 Ambienté Auto met, hide, ar, cc, s/r	3T	£27,995
89G	300SL auto alloys, rcs, r/sl	76T	£25,995
91H	300SL 24V Auto ar, hide, rcs, 8 holes, r/st	41T	£39,995
95N	S280 Auto met, hide, acc, esr, r/st	18T	£35,995
94M	S500L Auto met, hide, acc, hls, 8 hole, r/st	33T	£41,995
94M	SL280 Auto met, hide, acc, rcs, r/st	42T	£47,995
96P	SL320 Auto met, hide, acc, glass roof, r/st	4T	£64,995
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95N	C180 Elegance Auto Blue black, grey cloth, r/c	45T	£19,995
96P	C180 Elegance Auto Tourmaline, grey, a/c, r/c	10T	£22,995
96P	C180 Elegance Auto Azurite, grey, a/con, r/c	11T	£22,995
96P	C180 Elegance Auto Silver, blue, a/con, r/c	12T	£22,995
96N	C200 Eleg Auto Tourmaline, m/room cloth, a/c	17T	£23,995
96N	C220 Elegance Auto Green blk, hide, a/c, eds	17T	£26,995
96N	C230 Sport Estate Man Green blk, black cloth	22T	£23,995
94M	E200 Auto Imperial red, grey, esr, e/w	29T	£18,995
96N	E200T Classic Auto Silver, black, r/s, esr	9T	£31,995
93L	E220 Coupe White/black hide, 8 holes, spoiler	46T	£22,995
97P	E220 Cabriolet Tourmaline/mush hide, a/c	5T	£42,995
96P	E230 T Avantgarde Auto Silver/blk hide, f/spec	27T	£34,995
96P	E230 T Classic Auto Azurite/Grey, r/s, hdn	11T	£29,995
95M	E280 Blue black, grey cloth, w/w, r/c	36T	£24,995
96P	E280 Elegance Green black, grey cloth, a/c, r/c	9T	£33,995
95M	E320 Auto Azurite, mushroom hide, huge spec	73T	£24,995
91J	500E Auto Blue black, grey, air con	75T	£22,995
97P	E36 AMG Silver/black hide, full spec	10T	£54,995
97P	CL420 Ruby red/mush hide, AMG Bodykit, esp	9T	£72,995
94L	300SE Silver, grey hide, c/c, 8 holes	51T	£33,995
95N	S500L Azurite, mushroom hide, full spec	19T	£54,995
94M	S320 Coupe Almandine/mush hide, 8 holes	27T	£54,995
93K	500SEC Silver blue hide	42T	£45,995
96N	S600 Limo Azurite, grey hide, full spec	3T	£79,995
95N	SL60 AMG Blue, blue hide, full spec	10T	£78,995
97P	SL500 Green black, mushroom hide, res, c/c	4T	£79,995

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95N	C180 Classic Auto Black, esr, e/w	20T	£18,995
94M	C180 Eleg Auto Midnight Blue, grey, 1 owner	47T	£17,995
95N	C180 Eleg Auto Tourmaline, mush, 1 owner	10T	£20,995
97P	C180 Auto Aqua blue, grey cloth, esr, demo	9T	£21,995
96N	C180 Eleg Auto Smoke silver, mushroom cloth	10T	£21,995
96P	C180 Eleg Auto Green black, grey cloth, a/c	14T	£22,995
96P	C180 Eleg Auto Tourmaline, mush cloth, a/c	12T	£22,995
96P	C200 Auto Midnight blue, blue cloth, esr, e/w	13T	£21,995
94M	C200 Eleg Metallic, hide, 17" alloys, 1 owner	34T	£21,995
95N	C200 Eleg Auto Tourmaline, duchatelet kit, allys	17T	£23,995
96P	C200 Eleg Auto Azurite blue, blue cloth, a/c	10T	£24,995
96P	C200 Eleg Est 5sp manual, metallic, aw	16T	£24,995
95M	C220 Eleg Auto Silver, blue cloth, CD system	20T	£21,995
95M	C220 Diesel Elegance Auto Silver, Black, 8aw	17T	£20,995
96P	C230 Komp Sport 5 Spd Auto Imperial red, blk	12T	£28,995
96P	C250 Diesel Elegance Auto Silver, ex-demo	10T	£23,995
96P	C280 Elegance 5 Spd Auto Tourmaline green	8T	£27,995
92K	200TE Auto White, blue cloth, esr, ew, 7seats	38T	£16,995
96P	E200 Classic Auto Ruby red, gry clth, 3 hr, far	11T	£24,995
96N	E200 Elegance Auto Onyx grey, mush cloth	17T	£26,995
94L	E220 Estate Auto Pearl blue, grey cloth, 7seats	33T	£21,995
96P	E280 Eleg Auto Azurite blue, grey hide, a/c	12T	£35,995
95M	E220 CAB Almandine red, hide, blmr, anti-theft	10T	£36,995
97P	E280 Avantgarde Auto Silver, grey hide, a/c, h/sts	5T	£36,995
95M	SL60 AMG Imperial, black hide, full AMG spec	24T	£71,995
95M	SL320 Azurite blue, mush hide, clmc, rcs, 8aw	21T	£54,995
91H	500SL met, hide, a/c, asr, rcs	38T	£46,995

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96P	C280 Sport Auto Silver, blk cloth, esr, cd, lmbar	9T	£29,995
96N	C220 Sport Auto Ruby, esr, far	17T	£23,995
96P	C220D Classic Auto Silver, black cloth, esr	12T	£23,995
97P	E200 Classic Auto Azurite, grey cloth, esr, far	14T	£27,495
95N	E200 A/garde Auto Azurite, hide, clm, blmr, esr	17T	£27,995
97P	E230 Classic Auto Green black, alloys, CD	4T	£28,995
96P	E230 Eleg Auto Azurite air con, Q-VAT	10T	£30,995
97P	E230 Avant A Violana, 18" AMG, Blk Hide, 4 Bags	8T	£32,995
97P	E230 Avant Auto Amazon Hide, Air Con, eds	4T	£32,995
96P	E230 Est Eleg Auto Grn blk, Q-VAT, air, music	12T	£33,995
96P	E230 Est Eleg Auto Silver, Q-VAT, air, music	7T	£33,995
95N	E320 T Auto Silver, hide, clm, 8h, asr, da	23T	£34,995
94M	E220 Cab Auto Silver, 8h, hls, cd	16T	£36,995
95M	E220 Cab Auto Blue blk, black hide, hls, 8h	18T	£36,995
97P	E280 A/garde Silv, hide, air, 18" alloys, bls, 3 hr	7T	£39,995
96P	SL280 Silver, black hide, rcs, blmr, cd	10T	£59,995
95M	SL500 Tourmaline, mushroom, c/c, clc, 8h	20T	£64,995
95M	SL500 Azurite, mushroom hide, rcs, alloys	15T	£68,995
96N	SL500 Azurite, hide, glass roof, clm, bls, 8h	13T	£69,995
96P	SL500 Ruby, mush hide, els, hls, alloys, c/c	4T	£72,995
97P	SL500 Grn black, hide, ght, hls, AMG alloys	3T	£P.O.A.
97P	CL420 Aquamarine, grey hide, wsw, cd, air	3T	£67,995
96P	S280 Silver, blk hide, esr, els, asb, hlws, cd	9T	£38,995

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96P	C280 Eleg Auto Vivianite m/hide, cd, spoiler	9T	£32,995
96P	CL420 Green black, m/hide	8T	£67,995
95M	E200 Auto B silver, esr, wal, d/st, thr, ew x 4	42T	£18,595
94M	E200 Auto Az, esr, swx4, thr, 2xab, alarm	26T	£19,595
95M	E200 Turbo Eleg Auto White, esr, 7 seats	20T	£21,995
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96P	E230 Elegance Auto Green black, 8h, air	6T	£31,995
97P	E280 Elegance Onyx b/hide, air, d/st	4T	£36,995
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96P	E320 Eleg Auto Bornite, esr, els x 2 + m lo de, cd	3T	£34,995
95N	E320 Eleg B silver b/hide, air, esr, blw, lm, d/st	13T	£36,995
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96P	S320 Az blue m/hide, els, hls, c.aids, esr, 3bl, d/st	7T	£46,995
94M	S320 B silver g/hide, clm, c.aids, 8h	32T	£39,995
96P	S500 Limo Green blk m/hide, wlw, wigs, esp, 8h	51T	£59,995
97P	S500 L Tourmaline, m/hide	10T	£65,995
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92J	300 SE Nautic cream hide	44T	DUE
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97P	S320 'A' ★★★★	2T	£47,850	97P	C36 5 Spd 'A' ★★★★★	5T	£45,850
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93L	320CE CABRIO 5 Spd 'A' ★★★	17T	£28,500	97P	C280 ELEGANCE 5 Spd 'A' ★★★	6T	£32,250
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SPECIAL ROADTEST REPORT: NEW CONTENDERS FROM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

Chrysler heralds a small American invasion

Stuart Birch asks if the New Yorker and Stratus can cut it in the UK's tough market

For many years, most American cars have been regarded as oversized, overstyled and over there — the best place for them. But things are changing: Chrysler has plans.

Its Jeep range has established *a substantial* position *in* the UK 4x4 market, its conservative Neon has been successful with company buyers, and recently its Voyager MPV went on sale here, offering plenty of mobile real-estate. And there is the V10 Chrysler Viper. At over £60,000 for the basic model, it may not have become the most common sight on the block but its image has done wonders for the Chrysler marque in Europe.

Now there are signs that canny Chrysler is considering *bringing more of its wares to* the UK. It will not be an invasion, but a reconnaissance in force. The major element of this may come in 2001, with a new version of the current mid-size Stratus, although before that, *Chrysler will have* the opportunity to bring a big luxury saloon here which is due to be unveiled at next January's Detroit show.

In recent years, Chrysler has hauled itself back from the financial abyss to become successful once more. Richard Mackay, managing director of *Chrysler Jeep UK*, believes there is a clear trend towards increased American car sales in the UK.

"We sell successfully to people who want something different, so if we do bring in *the new Stratus, that will* present added opportunity."

However, Mackay says there is one problem about bringing Chrysler's US-market products to the UK: their headlamps. If the company designs alternative, right-hand-drive headlights, it would be a big step towards importing more models. That may seem a *minor* technology hurdle but Mackay says it is a major element of type approval — the official go-ahead for a car to go on sale in Britain.

But with American cars becoming increasingly accept*able internationally*, there seems little doubt that more will go on sale here. I tried two Chryslers: the big, luxurious New Yorker and the smaller, but very attractive Stratus Cabriolet LX.

The New Yorker is exported mainly to continental Europe, but is available on special order in Britain for about £33,500. Its 3.5-litre 24-valve V6 engine produces 211bhp and has a nice growl, giving a top speed the high side of 125mph and 0-60mph in about ten seconds.

Handling is competent if not exactly sporty, the ride smooth but not soggy, and the car has four-wheel, anti-lock disc brakes. Equipment is lavish and includes soft leather trim. At more than 17ft long, the *handsome* New Yorker is a big car. The new 300M is likely to be slightly smaller.

More appropriate for UK roads is the Stratus. It is a pity the current model is not available with right-hand drive because it is a fine car in *cabriolet form — and a genu*ine four seater. Mackay expects that if it were sold here it would probably cost about £24,000: "Maybe it would have been up against the Audi Cabriolet and BMW 3-series convertible but with its interi*or space, overall length,* distinctive looks and full equipment — power hood, air conditioning, leather upholstery — it could have been in a class of its own."

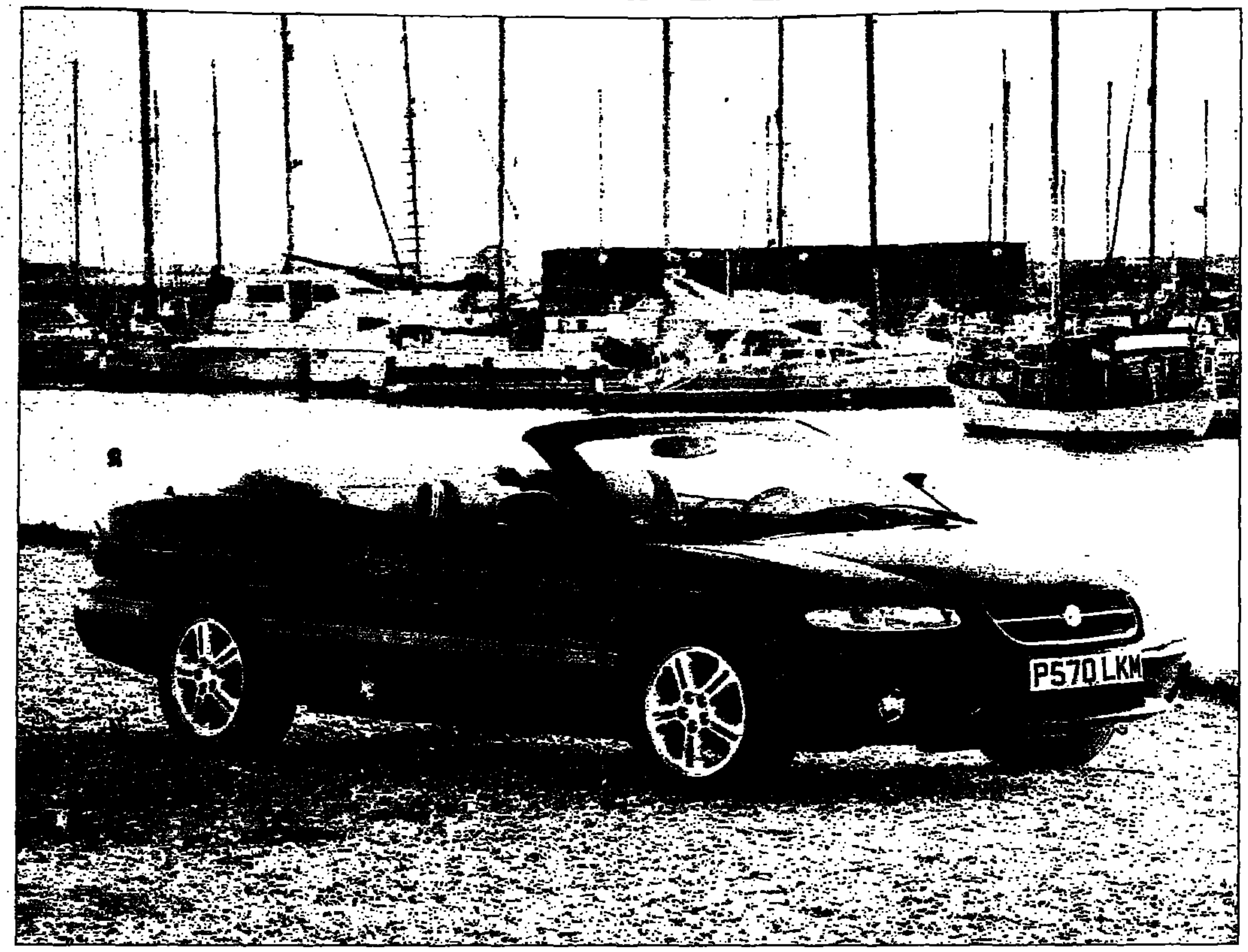
I found it a delight to drive on hot and sunny August days. *The big power roof folds* quickly after the release of two catches and has a smart cover when lowered. With the windows raised there is little buffeting at 70mph and the car proved quiet and relaxing.

*Its 160mph, 2.5-litre V6 en*gine is smooth with plenty of torque, and allied to a four-speed automatic gearbox gets the car to 60mph in about 11 seconds. The transmission also has a clutchless "manual mode" *called* Autostick, *simi*lar to the Tiptronic system used by Porsche and Audi, and is superbly easy to use.

The Stratus's ride is good. It is no sportscar but handling is surprisingly sharp and nimble. Body stiffness is acceptable, but a shade flexible over poorly surfaced roads.

Although there is plenty of room for four people, boot space is absurdly limited. Nor is Chrysler's quality in the Audi/BMW class — the doors close with a clang not a clunk.

Overall, I thought the good-*looking Stratus Cabriolet* showed great promise. If the new version (there will be a saloon, too) is even better, Chrysler's designers should give very careful consideration to making it UK compatible.


Chrysler may sell a new version of the mid-size Stratus in the UK. Current model is a fine car in cabriolet form — and a genuine four-seater

Richard Mackay, Chrysler's head of Jeep imports, sees increased American sales here

STRATUS

Price: Not for sale in Britain though price would translate at about *£24,000 here*, comparable with a BMW 1.8 convertible or Audi 1.8 Cabriolet.
Engine: 2.5-litre, 160bhp V6.
Performance: 0 to 60mph in about 11 seconds, top speed 116mph.
Fuel consumption: average is around the mid-20 to the gallon.
Equipment: Four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes, twin airbags, automatic gearbox plus *manual shift* alternative, air conditioning, leather upholstery, powered hood, cruise control, powered driving seat.

AA cuts out the horrible haggle

Britain's biggest motoring organisation is taking on car dealers in order to save its members *having to haggle over prices* — a process many buyers hate, writes *Rupert Saunders*.

From this week, AA members will be able to select and order a new car by telephone without ever visiting a showroom or facing a salesman on the lookout for a quick commission.

The scheme, called AA Freeway, is *linked* to a low-rate finance package operated by NWS Bank, a subsidiary of the Bank of Scotland. Car buyers have to take out a plan similar to Ford Options, Vauxhall Choices or Rover Select, *which ties them into a* low-cost, three-year loan with an option to buy or trade the car in at the end of the term.

Interest rates on Freeway are among the lowest on the market, around 9.8 per cent APR against an average 13 to 14 per cent, but cars are bought at list price. It might *still* be cheaper to buy from a dealer if you are prepared to haggle and can secure a discount.

It is also possible to part exchange your existing car using Freeway. Sales advisors *will give you a valuation over* the telephone, subject to an inspection, at the time your new car is delivered.

The move into new car sales comes six months after AA Motor Finance launched a *discount scheme for members* on used cars. Holders of the AA credit card are able to redeem points against the price of ex-company cars ordered from Cowie Interleasing. The points are worth £5 for every £100 spent on the card, up to a maximum of £1,000.

AA *Motor Finance is also set* to cut its hire-purchase rates to 9.9 per cent APR on loans of more an £10,000 to members, *making* it the cheapest in the market. High street car dealers typically charge between 13 *and 18 per cent for hire* purchase with higher rates for used cars.

Rebecca Hadley, AA Motor Finance's spokeswoman, says: "Some members will still want to see and touch the cars."

FORECOURT

■ AUCTION houses and dealers have traditionally been the main suppliers for second-hand car buyers, who outnumber customers for new *models by more than three to* one. Now new technology is emerging to shake up the age-old methods of buying used cars, says *CAP Black Book*.

Andrew Wilkinson at *CAP* says: "Not so long ago the lion's share of trade was done at auctions where real people turned up to bid real money for real cars they could look at, sit in and feel.

"Now computer sales systems and electronic auctions are on the march. Increasingly sophisticated fax and modem links allow manufacturers to offer dealers ex-management cars via 'virtual' showroom facilities, and lease companies can also now offer their cars via fax links."

One development, says Wilkinson, involves 'virtual' auctions at which dealers can browse, from the comfort of their own showroom, a list of nearly-new cars detailed on their computer screens, and bid for them. While this works well for six-month-old cars with fewer than 10,000 miles on the clock, motorists looking for older cars and who like to kick tyres on the forecourt will be able to do so for quite a few years yet.

Wilkinson adds: "Trading older, higher mileage cars is a sector which many are convinced will always benefit from a 'hands-on' approach, where *the buyer gets a first*-hand look at the vehicle before writing out the cheque. Dealers who are able to make money trading via fax, modem and the Internet, will do so.

"Those who prefer 'real' auctions will go to them, and the versatile few will do both. The likelihood is that the new ways will flourish side by side with the old."

Neon: flash as standard

Alan Copps on a model that takes other makers' optional extras for granted

ROAD TEST

The *first thing* to establish about the Chrysler Neon is what sort of car is it? It looks and feels, in terms of space at least, like a rival for cars like the Mondeo, Vectra and *Peugeot 406. Yet in price it's* more comparable to an Escort or an Astra.

In fact it falls between the two classes of car and sells on its price and American levels of standard equipment. As a *way of bringing* the Chrysler name back to the European saloon scene, it has been a *success, but as a driving* experience it still falls short of the best European offerings.

It's one of those cars that will prove mightily attractive to the buyer who wants something a bit different to the norm. Its looks are not the most graceful on the road but they are distinctive, and the LX model, particularly, comes with an impressive list of equipment known as the "four A's": *airbags for driver and* passenger, anti-lock brakes, air-conditioning and automatic *transmission* for no extra charge.

For £13,795, all this standard equipment has had an impact on the market since it first arrived here last year, forcing other *manufacturers* to rethink their offerings — and Chrysler deserves credit for that.

After all, *air-conditioning* is rapidly becoming a must-have for the motorist who *wants his new* car to retain a decent resale value, and anti-lock brakes are such a compelling safety feature and so common now that I am con*stantly surprised at the num*ber of manufacturers who quote them as an option *rather than* as standard equipment.

But perhaps, in the middle of a sweltering August at least, the most notable of these two extras is the air-conditioning. You can tell it is an American unit because *it is instantly* effective and very simply controlled. With global warming apparently gathering pace, any driver who has experienced the joys of an air-*conditioned car would be* reluctant to get back into one without. But there is a downside, and one particularly hot day with the unit working full blast, the combined effects of air-conditioning and automatic transmission reduced the range of its nine-gallon tank to barely 200 miles.

*Nevertheless it was a com*fortable 200 miles. The automatic is a steady and predictable unit and the 2-litre engine with 131bhp handled a mixed bag of motorway and *A-roads without a hiccup.* The car's interior is simply but practically finished and a tilt-adjustable steering wheel makes it easy to find a relaxed driving position. It boasts a useful amount of boot space.

Chrysler has also *paid a lot* of attention to safety and security. The way the car *automatically immobilises* itself if left unattended for more than 45 seconds may niggle at first, but once the simple routine of pressing the "unlock" key before turning the ignition becomes a habit, it's a minor price to pay for security from theft.

Where the car doesn't match its larger rivals is in handling and refinement. Compared to a Peugeot 406 it *simply can't boast the same* agility and driving pleasure. Compared to the calm whirr of a Mondeo, the engine is busy and noisy, and compared to either the ride is not of the same order. But compare it on grounds of cost to the smaller rivals and it is an impressively safe and spacious package.

Chrysler's Neon will prove attractive to buyers who want something a bit different

CHRYSLER NEON LX

Price: £13,795 on the road.

Engine: Four-cylinder, 16-valve 2-litre producing 131bhp at 5,850rpm.

Transmission: Five-speed manual or three-speed automatic at no extra cost.

Performance: (figures for model with automatic box) 0-60mph in 8.8 seconds; top speed 121mph.

Economy: (auto only: figures from manufacturer) urban, 24.1 miles to the gallon; out of town, 42.8mpg; average overall, 33.2mpg

Equipment: Twin airbags, anti-lock brakes, air-conditioning, power steering, electric front windows, adjustable and folding mirrors, remote central locking, digital stereo radio and cassette.

SPARE PARTS

■ ONE in three used cars has a hidden history, according to *HPI Equifax*, the vehicle information company. It checked 1.5 million vehicles from March to June to discover thousands that could have been stolen, were shoddily repaired wrecks, or the subject of outstanding finance. As many as 100 stolen vehicles are sold daily, says HPI, and *these could be taken from the* new owner if traced by police. An HPI check before buying — telephone 01722-422422 — costs £28.50

■ MERCEDES has launched a used-car scheme that ensures a check on all components and service history, includes a minimum year's *warranty, a year's roadside* assistance plus a mileage and history check.

■ FORD *prices* are up 1.2 per cent as the company switches to advertising on-the-road prices. But the nation's biggest car retailer is not changing sticker prices on the Ka, Fiesta and Escort Focus models, new Puma coupé, pre-August Mondeos and the Mondeo Focus, Probe or Explorer. A three-door Fiesta 1.25LX is now £140 more expensive at £10,085, a five-door Mondeo 1.8LX up £215 at £15,090 and *the Scorpio Ultima at* £24,665, up £300. Ford drivers can book Extra Cover, extending warranty by up to two years. Extra Cover now gets accident assistance with RAC cover.

■ NISSAN'S *Almera range* gets a new cut-price model, the Muzic, which is in showrooms at £9,995 on the road. A three-door hatchback, the car has a 1.4-litre engine, electric door mirrors and stereo with remote controls. Warranty is three years or 60,000 miles, plus a year's RAC cover.

■ LONG awaited and now here is BMW's Z3 roadster, but with the 192bhp straight-six 2.8-litre engine which livens up performance for a 0 to 62mph time of 7.1 seconds and top speed of 135mph. Price is £28,115 — but book now because the waiting list grows *ever longer*.

USED CAR BRIEF

RENAULT LAGUNA
The Laguna succeeded the Renault 21 and was launched as a five-door *hatchback here in 1994. The estate arrived a year later and the extensive engine range* includes 1.8, two and 2-litre 16-valve petrol engines as well as 2.2-litre diesel and 3-litre V6 petrol. The front-wheel-drive saloons are a favourite with company car drivers faced with the Ford Mondeo or Vauxhall Vectra alternatives.

✓ **GOOD NEWS**
Is that the Laguna represents a lot of second-hand car for the money largely because so many have flooded onto the used market from company *fleets. With supply overwhelming* demand, prices have, as the trade says "gone soft" which makes it a buyer's market

⊘ **BAD NEWS**
Is that the V6, though smooth and fast (over 130mph top speed) returns fuel consumption figures in the low 20mpg range. The diesel, *by contrast*, will return better *than* 40mpg. Badging (RN, RT, RXE) is confusing though RXE is top of the heap offering air-conditioning and leather seats

LOOK FOR
estates which are among the most spacious and make for practical and hard-working load carrier. French carmakers have long set the pace *for sophisticated and effective diesel* engines and the 2.2-litre Laguna diesel engine is no exception. The 3.0 litre V6 petrol is hugely smooth and powerful

AVOID
1.8-litre Lagunas which are sluggish and have to work hard. Ex-company cars should have benefitted from regular services but beware examples with excessively high mileages or which *have been neglected*, leading to worn-out brake discs and soggy suspension

△ **SAFETY**
The Laguna moved on from its Renault 21 predecessor which was rated average by the Department of Transport alongside the Toyota Carina and Nissan Primera. The Laguna enhances safety with airbags and anti-lock brakes

INSURANCE
Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1994 *1.8RN* costs a 55-year-old professional, male or female, living in Winchester with full no claims £146 a year fully comprehensive. A 22-year old male, with one year no claims in south London pays £649, a similar woman £563

REPLACEMENT PARTS
(*Prices supplied by Glassmatix 01932 823823*) Clutch assembly £160; full exhaust £262; *catalytic converter £315; front brake* pads (axle set) £44; rear damper £65; alternator £234; starter motor £115; radiator £145

£ **PRICES**
Expect to pay £7,300 for a 1994 L-reg 1.8RN, £9,000 for a 1994 M-reg 2.0RT, £11,000 for a 1995 N-reg 2.2DRT diesel, £10,250 for a 1995 M-reg 2.0RT automatic, £13,750 for a 1996 N-reg 2.0RT estate, £14,500 for a 1995 M-reg 3.0 V6 and £16,500 for a 1995 N-reg 3.0 V6 Baccara

OVERALL
Aimed at the demanding fleet car market means even entry level RN Lagunas enjoy remote central-locking, *engine* immobiliser, tinted glass and electric front windows. Range-topping V6 3.0 adds air-conditioning, cruise control and compact disc player. A lot of the car for the money as French flair meets commonsense

مكتب الأرشيف

Is nowhere safe to put baby in the car?

Front airbags and short rear seatbelts pose parents a dilemma, says

Alan Copps

JOHN HOULIHAN/GUZELIAN

Babies in the back may be safe from exploding airbags, but what if you can't secure their childseats?

HOW THE LAW ON SEAT BELTS AFFECTS YOU

AGE		RESPONSIBILITY
Under 3 years	Appropriate restraints (for weight and size which can be correctly fitted) must be worn in front and rear seats	Driver
3 to 11	Appropriate restraints (as above) to be worn if available. If not, adult seatbelt must be worn in front and rear seats if fitted	Driver
12 or younger child 1.5m (approx 5ft) or more tall	Adult safety belt to be worn where available	Driver
Adults	Safety belts must be worn where available	Driver and passenger

WARNING!
Airbag Hazard – Danger for Infants!

Twin airbags is one of the current buzz-phrases on many manufacturers' specification lists. But it's a safety feature that brings its own problems. The warning was plastered in large letters in the front of the Chrysler Neon I drove recently: Don't use a rear-facing childseat in the front passenger seat because it is fitted with an airbag.

The warning was introduced after American investigations showed that the force of an exploding airbag could smash a childseat against the back of the front seat, killing or injuring its occupant, a risk not shared by a larger adult occupant who will be held further back in the seat by the belt. It is an increasingly familiar message for anyone buying or renting a modern car but while it may add to safety it also adds to the confusion over the proper use of child seats and seatbelts.

Already a cross-party group of MEPs, led by Alan Donnelly, member for Tyne and Wear, is campaigning for clearer laws on the subject and mandatory standard fittings in all new cars. Their campaign is supported by both the RAC and the FIA, the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile. In the meantime they want a clearer standard warning symbol against using a rear-facing seat when a passenger airbag is fitted. But that is only half the problem.

My wife, Anna, who is not a reckless sort of person, prefers to drive a car without a passenger airbag because she wants to have our five-month-old daughter, Imogen, within her line of view. "I want the baby in the front so that I can see if she starts choking or something else goes wrong. If I'm driving alone with her in a car with an airbag, I'd rather take the risk and put her in the front than have her in the back where I can't get to her so quickly," she says. Most of her friends with small children take a similar view.

But going for a drive together with Imogen in her perfectly standard rear-facing seat, I decided to obey the instruction and put her in the back. No matter how hard I tried the rear seatbelt simply didn't stretch round the seat.

At first I thought I must have been doing something wrong, perhaps the belt was snagged on something, but after careful checking I established beyond doubt it was simply too short. So I asked Chrysler, what should I do?

I was not the first to ask and the response was rapid: I was recommended to a company called Quickfit Safety Belt Services, a London-based specialist, who would replace the webbing with a longer length and refit it with the original fittings for £45 plus VAT.

If you can't get the car to them they will mail you the webbing for £25 plus VAT and you can then get it fitted locally.

Reconstruction: 270 children were killed in cars last year

It all sounded straightforward until I began asking Bill Quick, managing director of the company, which has been seatbelt specialists since 1962, how many such fittings he sold. "Each week we get at least 20 inquiries, sometimes twice as many, but even in the best week we never fit more than a dozen. We have to warn customers with new cars that they should check the terms of their warranty and insurance before changing the specification of the car. The fact is that by replacing the original-fit webbing we are changing the specification. We think that it's only fair to warn people but unfortunately it puts them off buying."

It's a real *Catch 22* and one that is by no means restricted to Chrysler. "We have fitted belts to cars of every make and model. Some of those makes who sell hardest on safety are the ones that pose the greatest problem," says Mr Quick.

One of the leading makers of childseats, Klippan, also acknowledges a growing problem as equipment levels get higher. "The jury is still out on passenger airbags, but manufacturers make seatbelts for people rather than babyseats. A lot of them have introduced shorter webbing to increase safety so there is less for a reel to take up in a crash, that means it doesn't stretch round a childseat. The golden rule with child seats is that you must try them out in the car before buying. Any good retailer should let you do this," said a spokeswoman.

With the holiday season in full swing, the Retail Motor Industry Federation issued its own warning last week: more than 50 per cent of parents admit not using childseats or seatbelts, while 70 per cent of all childseats are incorrectly fitted. Only if parents adopt a responsible attitude to child safety can the toll of child casualties be reduced.

In 1996 270 children were killed and 6,719 injured on Britain's roads. If proper restraints had been used, three out of four deaths and 90 per cent of those injuries could have been avoided. Together with local authorities, the RMI runs Child in Car Care Centres at dealerships throughout the country, offering free advice on selection, fitting and suitability of child seats and restraints.

The RMI's spokesman sympathised with mothers who want to maintain eye contact with their children, and recommended that they should consult dealers who would be able to disarm the front airbag or to fit longer seatbelt webbing without any effect on warranty. "Each manufacturer and each model is going to be different. It's difficult to offer advice across the board," he said.

There is one brilliantly clever solution to the whole conundrum: if you buy a Mercedes Benz SLK or CLK you get a "clever" front seat that senses its load and switches off the airbag if it finds a childseat is in place. But it's a very expensive way round a problem that is common to cars of all makes and prices.

- *Information: Quickfit Safety Belt Services, 0181-206 0101*
RMI Motorline is on 0345 585 350.
The RAC's Child Seat Safety *leaflet is available by sending an SAE to Child Seat safety, RAC, PO Box 200, Walsall WS5 4QZ.*

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93L 968 6 Spd Guards Red	38T
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GEM 3
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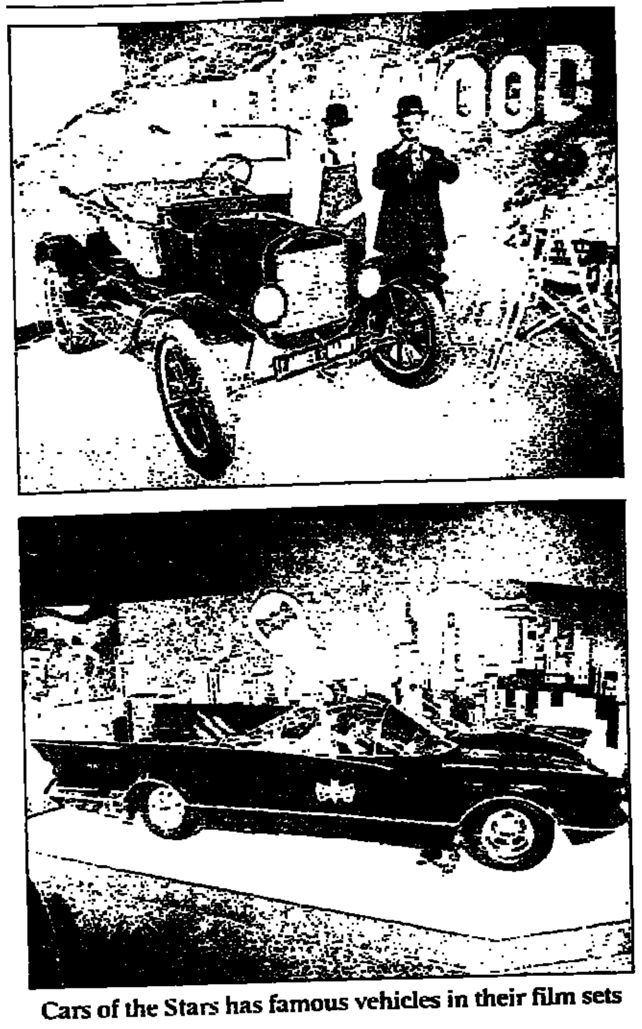
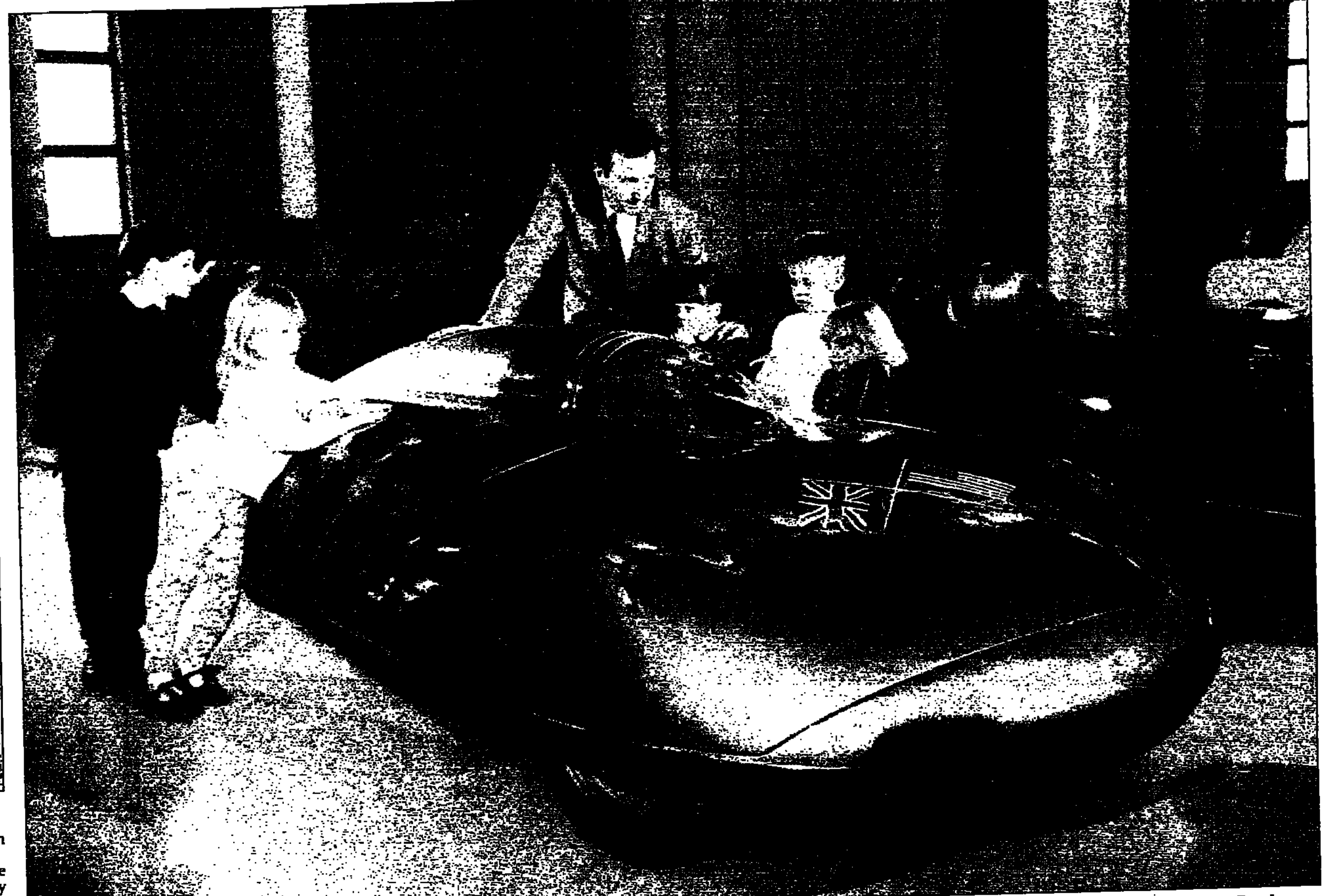


Cars of the Stars has famous vehicles in their film sets



This 1957 MG XI record car, which Stirling Moss and Phil Hill drove at speeds of up to 250mph, is one of the starring features at the Heritage Motor Centre at Gaydon

Cars, bumper to bumper, metal wing jostling metal wing: it's a sight to drive road-users to distraction on a Bank Holiday weekend.

But thousands of motoring enthusiasts will be seeking just such an experience over the next few days when they head, not for the traffic jams en route to holiday resorts, but for the scores of museums where historic machines rest side by side in peace. Visiting them has become as much a part of Bank Holiday weekends as the tailbacks on the M5 in the West Country.

They can be found in splendid parkland settings from Beaulieu, Hampshire, home of the National Motor Museum, to the Bentley Museum, East Sussex, where the vintage cars take second place to a wildfowl enclosure. They brighten city centres in Birmingham, Coventry, Cardiff and Glasgow.

Many are devoted to the machines themselves, from the simple, uncovered boneshakers of a century ago to the latest electric and gas-powered models. Others, like the unique Cars of the Stars Motor Museum at Keswick in the Lake District and the cluttered Jim Clark Room in Duns, Berwickshire, concentrate on the men and women who drove them.

Appropriately, some of the finest collections are ideally situated to provide a perfect break on a holiday journey. Returning from the Lake District to London or the South East? Then the Heritage Motor Centre just off the M40 at Gaydon, Warwickshire, promises "the cars of the century, the visit of a lifetime".

The centre, built in 1930s Art Deco style, a period recognised as the most evocative in automotive design, only comes into view as visitors travel along an approach road. They are taken to the first floor entrance aboard a shuttle train pulled by a Land Rover.

Inside they will find 200 vehicles marking motoring milestones, including an 1896 Wolseley, the first MG, the first Morris Minor, the first Mini and the last Range Rover Classic. Graham Hill's Rover BRM Le Mans racing car, valued at £2 million, takes pride of place in the exhibition along with the 1957 MG XI record car that Stirling Moss and Phil Hill drove at speeds of up to 250mph.

At Sparkford, south Somerset, just off the A303, the popular route to the West Country, lies the Haynes Motor Museum created by John Haynes, the motoring publisher. The huge warehouse does little for the landscape but the wares inside are spectacular, especially in the Red Hall where an aggressive collection of sports cars including models from Alvis, AC Cobra, MG and Triumph, glints under the bright lighting.

> 'The Haynes Motor Museum includes a number of famous flops'

The museum is "run by enthusiasts for enthusiasts", every member of staff having started as a volunteer, and has a homely feel reflected in the collection of familiar Fifties saloons and a number of under-achievers. They include the Ford Probe, which flopped in its attempt to replace the Capri, and one of only two Rover 3-litre Estates which were intended to rival Volvos but never made it into production.

Several motor museums have grown up in tourist areas, none more spectacularly than Cars of the Stars, developed by Peter Nelson, a Keswick dentist, after he was asked to loan his MG TC to Granada Television for *The Spoils of War* series.

"Early in the planning stage, I decided to show off each of the cars in context with its film and television career," he says. "Therefore, each vehicle is displayed in its individual film set with atmospheric lighting and sound playing a key part."

The collection ranges from one of the Model T Fords which featured in so many escapades with Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, through Emma Peel's Lotus Elan from *The Avengers* and James Bond's Aston Martins to a Batmobile stationed in front of the Gotham City skyline.

Some museums have developed in places which might resemble the home town of Batman, Robin and The Joker but they are still worth a visit.

The Museum of British Road Transport in Coventry contains the largest display of British-manufactured vehicles in the world, boasting a £15 million collection of more than 150 cars, 75 motorcycles and 200 bicycles.

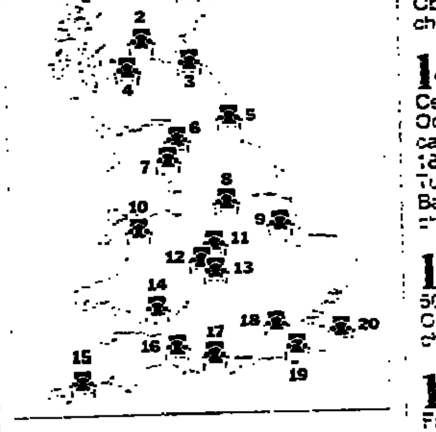
Visitors find their way into the main display halls through a series of tableaux called "Memory Lanes" which capture the atmosphere of early motoring in 1900, the grandeur of the saloon cars of the 1930s, and regal vehicles used by Queen Mary and King George VI.

Above a showroom containing classic cars in Leeds Road, Huddersfield, is the Automobilia collection of Brian and Sylvia Collins, moved from its old home in Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, to more spacious surroundings. A splendid group of Austin 7s line the walls together with prewar Morris and MG models, ancient tricycles and bicycles and much motoring memorabilia.

Men like Haynes, Nelson and Collins have taken up the challenge to preserve our motoring history that was first thrown down by Lord Montagu 45 years ago when he opened his home at Beaulieu to the public and included a small collection of cars.

The National Motor Museum, as it has become, now houses more than 250 cars, commercial vehicles and motorcycles which tell the story of motoring from 1895 until today. The museum and its surrounding attractions are spectacular but dozens of much smaller displays around the British Isles will also satisfy a lust for motoring nostalgia this weekend.

TIMES CHOICE OF 20 MUSEUMS TO VISIT IN THE UK



1 Grampian Transport Museum, Alford, Aberdeenshire. Extensive collection of historic vehicles, climb-aboard exhibits for children include vintage road roller, snowplough and driving simulator. Open daily 10am-5pm. Adults £2.75, children £1.25.

2 Doune Motor Museum, Doune, Perthshire. Developed from Earl of Moray's collection of cars, including Hispano-Suiza, Bentley, Lagonda and Rolls Royce models. Classic car rally today and tomorrow. Open daily 10am-5pm. Adults £3, children £2.

3 Myreton Motor Museum, Aberlady, East Lothian. Collection dating from 1897, including cars, cycles, motorcycles and World War II military vehicles and automobilia. Open daily 10am-5.30pm. Adults £3.00, children £2.00.

4 Museum of Transport, Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. Cars from 1930s to modern times, motorcycles, Glasgow trams and buses and fire engines. Open today 10am-5pm, tomorrow 11am-5pm, Monday and Wednesday to Friday 10am-5pm. Free.

5 Newburn Hall Motor Museum, Newburn, Newcastle upon Tyne. Vintage cars and motorcycles from the early 1920s onwards, including some from well-known films, all in period buildings. Open Tuesday to Sunday 10am-6pm and Bank Holiday Monday. Adults £3, children £1.

6 Cars of the Stars Motor Museum, Keswick, Cumbria. Collection of cars from famous films including James Bond's Aston Martins and Del Boy's Reliant van. Open daily, 10am-5pm. Adults £3, children £2

7 Lakeland Motor Museum, Holker Hall, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria. Collection of 150 vehicles plus Bluebird Exhibition featuring Sir Malcolm and Donald Campbell's world speed record achievements. Open Sunday to Friday, 10.30am-4.45pm. Adults £5.75, children £3.50

8 Automobilia Transport Museum, The Heritage Centre, Leeds Road, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. Collection of cars spanning seven decades above a classic car showroom. Open daily, 9am-6pm, except Sundays 11am-4pm. Donations welcome, with suggested prices of: adults £2, children £1.

9 Lincolnshire Road Transport Museum, North Hykeham, Lincoln. Contains 45 vehicles from 1926 Austin 12 to 1970s models and the best collection of prewar Leyland buses. Open Sunday 10am-4pm, Monday to Friday 12noon-4pm, closed Saturdays. Free

10 Betws-Y-Coed Motor Museum, Gwynedd, North Wales. Early 1930s sports cars, all rare or exotic, plus child's racing car and jet engine. Open daily 10am-6pm. Adults £1.30, children £0.80.

11 Donington Grand Prix Collection, Castle Donington, Derbyshire. Unique selection of racing cars including some driven by Stirling Moss, Graham Hill and Nigel Mansell, situated alongside race circuit. Open daily 9.30am-5.30pm. Adults £7, children £2 50.

12 Museum of British Road Transport, St Agnes Lane, Hales Street, Coventry. Largest display of British-made vehicles in the world reflecting city's status as birthplace of British motor industry. Open daily 10am-5pm. Adults £3.30, children £2.30.

13 Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire. Comprehensive collection of historic and classic British vehicles plus engineering and art gallery and 1930s garage scene. Open daily 10am-6pm. Adults £5.50, children £3.50.

14 Welsh Industrial and Maritime Museum, Bute Street, Cardiff. Century of Motoring Exhibition until October, horse-drawn vehicles, buses, cars and motorbikes. Trevithick's 1804 Penydarren locomotive. Open Tuesday to Sunday 10am-5pm and Bank Holiday Monday. Adults £2.25, children £1.25.

15 Automobilia, St Austell, Cornwall. Collection of more than 50 vehicles from 1920s to 1960s. Open daily 10am-5pm. Adults £3.00, children £1 50.

16 Haynes Motor Museum, Sparkford, near Yeovil, Somerset. Far-reaching collection from a 1900 Clement Voiturette to a Duesenberg and including the Red Hall full of sports cars. Open daily 9.30am-5.30pm. Adults £4.50, children £2.75.

17 National Motor Museum, Beaulieu, Hampshire. World-famous collection of more than 250 vehicles with the newest displays featuring a 1930s country garage and an interactive gallery for the children. Open daily 10am-6pm. Adults £8.50, children £6.00

18 Brooklands Museum, Weybridge, Surrey. Features the famous banked track where racing history was made between the wars plus the cars of the period. Open daily 10am-5pm. Adults £6, children £4.

19 Bentley Wildfowl and Motor Museum, Halland, near Lewes, East Sussex. Vintage, veteran and Edwardian vehicles on a country estate with geese, ducks and swans. Open daily 10.30am-5pm. Adults £4.10, children £2.50.

20 Ramsgate Motor Museum, West Cliff Hall, Ramsgate, Kent. Cars from a 1900 Benz to a Sinclair C5 plus motorcycles from throughout the century displayed in scenes depicting the past. Open daily 10.30am-5.30pm. Adults, £2.50, children 50p.

A TIMES NEWSPAPERS COMPETITION

Play Fantasy Formula One

THE TIMES FANTASY FORMULA ONE

Prizes worth £40,000

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Tomorrow's Belgian Grand Prix is the 12th race in our £40,000 Fantasy Formula One competition and the fourth race offering bonus points. Heading our leaderboard after the Hungarian GP is D Gwilt from Wolverhampton. His team, Gwilt F1, has 7,943 points after scoring 744 points at the Hungarian Grand Prix at Budapest.

TO ENTER If you have not yet entered a team into our £40,000 competition use the panel, below right, to make three selections from each of the four groups and call 0891 405 001 (+44 990 100 311 outside the UK).

THE PRIZES The manager with the best team score after the European Grand Prix on October 26, will win the first prize of £25,000 courtesy of our sponsor Marlboro World Championship team. Prizes of £10,000 and £5,000 will go to two runners-up. The manager with the most points in the Belgian Grand Prix will win a trip for two to next year's British Grand Prix. The runner-up gets a Sony PlayStation and CD-Rom game.

TRANSFERS You can change up to four selections before the Italian Grand Prix by calling 0891 555 994 (+44 990 100 394 ex UK) before noon Thursday, September 4. Your new team must have three selections from each of groups A, B, C and D. The first three drivers you select will be your prediction for the Luxembourg Grand Prix bonus points.

CHECK YOUR SCORE Check your score and position on our leaderboard after the Belgian Grand Prix on 0891 884 648 (+44 990 100 348 ex UK) with your 10-digit PIN number. Lines will open on Wednesday.

OUR LEADERBOARD AFTER THE HUNGARIAN GRAND PRIX

POS	TEAM NAME	MANAGER NAME	POINTS
1	Gwilt F1	D Gwilt	7943
2	Aston O	L Ackland	7932
3	Dragon Racing	R Davis	7901
4	Smith-Astra	D Smith	7885
5	Coolsport	D Coolican	7880
6	Parkhurst Racing	L Danson	7874
7	The Tigglers	—	7810
7	Cathy's Clowns	C Robinson	7810
7	Bezzotti Racing	A Scott	7810
7	F1 Erb	S Erhorn	7810
11	Beck's Racing Team	M Kingdon	7807
12	Dow Jones 2	I Dowty	7795
13	Scuderia Vincitore	S J Lorenti	7794
14	Sour Mash	R Owers	7766
15	Cartell Racing	S Dimetto	7762
16	F1 Autopoint	C Russell	7759
17	Slickhead 3	A Bradley	7758
18	Formula Uno	P Tabone	7727
19	Will And Nerve	A Mewes	7725
20	Go Speed Racer	L Gardner	7713
21	Freaks	F Retkowsky	7704
22	Meadows Racing	R Osker	7696
23	Midnight Ravers	C Newman	7691
23	Cyclops	R Bohee	7691

MAKE 3 SELECTIONS FROM EACH OF THESE FOUR GROUPS

The first column of figures in light type after the names shows the Fantasy Formula One Hungarian GP race scores, the second column the total competition points so far

DRIVERS GROUP A

01 D Hill	154	752	07 M Hakkinen	25	870
02 M Schumacher	137	1334	08 D Coulthard	74	872
03 J Villeneuve	165	1094	09 R Barrichello	35	521
04 E Irvine	113	979	10 H-H Frentzen	50	898
05 J Alesi	117	1208	11 J Herbert	155	906
06 G Berger	123	921	12 M Salo	120	889

DRIVERS GROUP B

13 J Trulli*	134	1244	19 G Fisichella	46	993
14 J Verstappen	60	773	20 S Nakano	146	835
15 U Katayama	137	664	21 G Morbidelli*	9	940
16 P Diniz	51	530	22 T Marques*	127	726
17 R Rosset	0	0	23 J Magnussen	5	515
18 R Schumacher	146	809	24 V Sospiri	0	0

CONSTRUCTORS GROUP C			CONSTRUCTORS GROUP D		
25 Williams	20	127	31 Arrows	15	-34
26 Ferrari	13	188	32 Sauber	14	112
27 McLaren	-20	94	33 Tyrrell	4	0
28 Benetton	19	204	34 Minardi	17	36
29 Jordan	12	106	35 Stewart	-20	-119
30 Prost	21	134	36 Lola	0	0

*Rule 2 applies. Jarno Trulli of Minardi replaces Olivier Panis in the Prost team. Tarso Marques replaces Trulli at Minardi and at Sauber Gianni Morbidelli, who originally replaced Nicola Larini, replaces Fontana

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CHANGING TIMES

Anniversary of Russia's first race

St Petersburg or bust . . . and most often bust

In two weeks today, 96 cars will set off from Beijing, bound for Paris in a re-run of the 10,000-mile challenge that brought the motor car to world attention in 1907. Among the participants, driving a 1914 Prince Henry Vauxhall, the oldest car competing in *the event, will be Lord* Montagu of Beaulieu, *left, who will be* sending in regular progress reports for *CAR 97*. But the Beijing to Paris event was not the first great pioneering motor race of 1907, as he tells here.

Russia has never shone particularly brightly in the automotive firmament; before the 1917 revolution it only had one notable manufacturer — the Russo-Baltique from the Port of Riga — and has since relied heavily on hand-me-down designs from foreign producers, from Ford *to Packard to Fiat*. However, this month marks the 90th anniversary of the vast country's first proper motor race, an epic struggle over the 450 miles of appalling roads linking Moscow to St Petersburg.

The 26-strong entry list was a curious assortment of giant racing cars, medium-sized touring cars and a variety of motorcycles, several of which were of Russian manufacture, which was more than could be said of the 14 four-wheeled contestants, most of which were French-built, apart from two huge Mercedes, a Fiat and a lone 20hp Buick.

Even though the event started at 2am — at that time of the year it was light all night — 18 miles outside Moscow, the novelty of the occasion attracted a tremendous crowd. The competitors were sent off at two-minute intervals and *had to pass through six controls en route to Tsarskoe Sebe, 18 miles outside* St Petersburg, where the Tsar *had a palace*.

The first half of the route *was comparatively easy, and* the larger cars hit high speeds, *but the final stages to St* Petersburg badly rutted. The *winning 60hp De Dietrich* of Arthur Duray, which completed the distance in 9hr 22min at an average speed of nearly 47mph, escaped without breakdown, though he declared: "In the latter part of my trip, I ran over a dog and this took some time to clear."

He was still two hours faster than the crack Moscow-St Petersburg express train: "Once more road has beaten rail," crowed the magazine *La Vie Automobile*. The second car home, a 30hp CGV driven by Champoiseau, also got through without mechanical problems, though it arrived 2hr 40min after the leader.

Other competitors were not so fortunate: B. Farrich, *driving a Brasier, spent six hours* repairing his car, while *Donnier, in a car of the same* make, ended up in a ditch just *nine miles out of Moscow*, with a badly injured mechanic. A third *Brasier, driven by* Lichinsky, broke down so frequently that it failed to arrive for several days.

Most of the motorcycles broke down, and only one *finished without damage. The* event had been run in conjunction with the St Petersburg Motor Show, and a sizeable crowd turned out to watch the finish. They were astounded by Duray's time.

A vivid picture of the event *was painted by Arthur Bray*, who rode as mechanic to the English driver, Charles Jarrott, in the 1908 version of the race, which was run in the opposite direction. "Dust! Dust in your eyes, your nose, your hair. Blinding dust *mixed with the stones thrown* up by the cars ahead, the *stench* of hot oil and the smoke belching from their exhausts and the whine of the driving chains in your ears. A straight road . . . 450 miles, never ending, with the hot morning sun in June glaring down on dust alone, and the desolation of that long Russian highway.

"No side paths, a few trees clustered in places, and for miles on either side stubble fields on which those trailing dust clouds finally settled."

Their car was a larger version of the 1907-winning *De Dietrich, a 120hp car that* had already set records on the Brooklands track.

It had been fitted with a *panoply of suspension aids*, though another British racer, *H. R. Pope, claimed that the* only springs capable of with*standing Russian roads were* made by Russian blacksmiths, and had fitted these to his Itala.

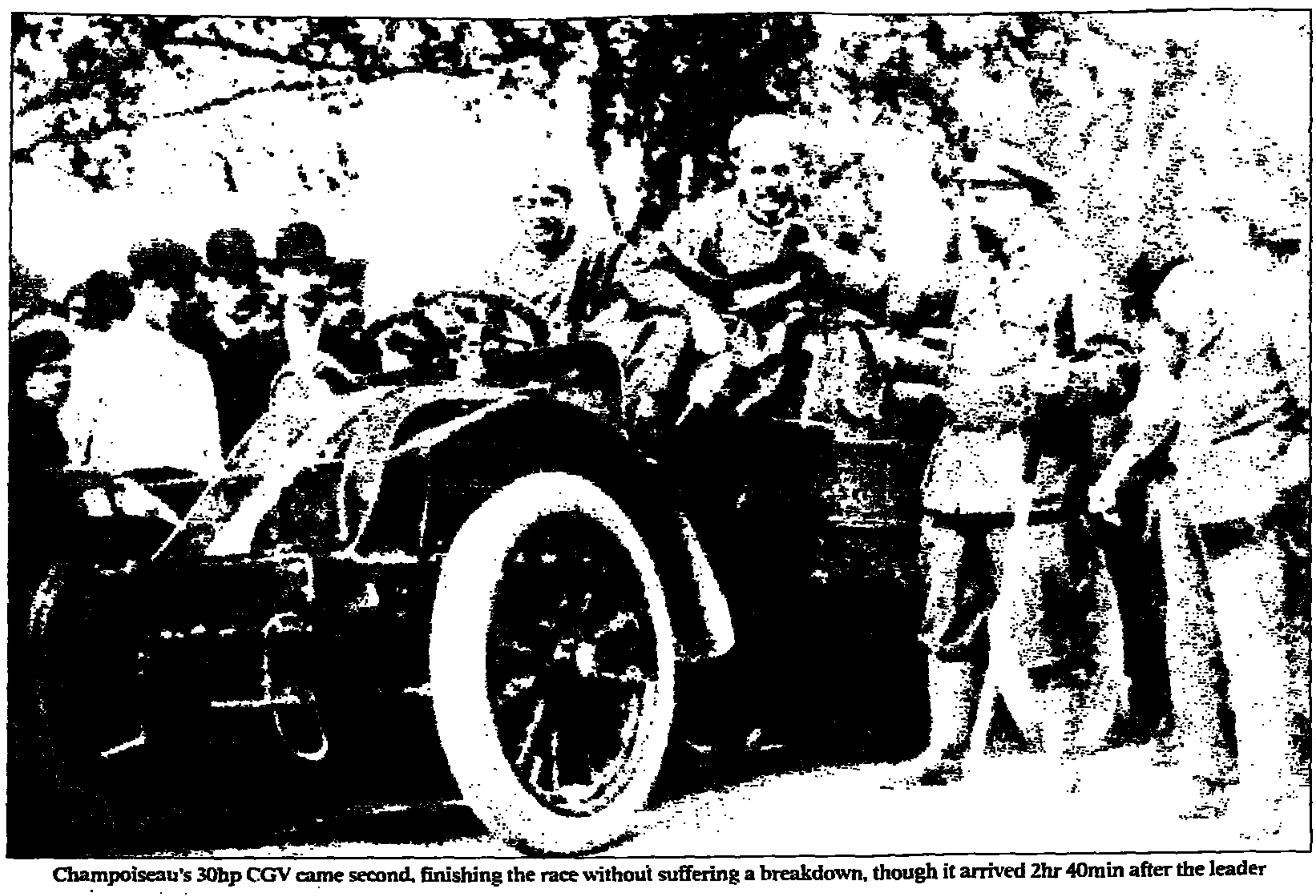
Recalled Bray: "By 1am it was fully light, and all the entrants were on the line. We mingled with great men at the game. At 1.50am we were sent off . . . Jarrott piled on the speed. At the first control, Tosna, we learnt we had done second fastest time. It certainly felt like it.

"The map said it was a road; a track would have been a better *description. It consist*ed of miles of loose stones, boulders *occasionally*, and then those wonderful little *steel bridges at intervals*, which at any speed over 40 *lifted you right off your seat* and dropped you again in a *different position*." *Bray had* filled his pockets with marbles, *which he threw at the* crew of a car they wanted to overtake when it slowed down for a bridge.

Gradually, the terrible roads shook the De Dietrich apart: "We now had only one road spring intact: miles astern the detachable upholstery had become permanently detached, and now nothing was left but the metal back and the square metal edge of the seat toolbox to sit on."

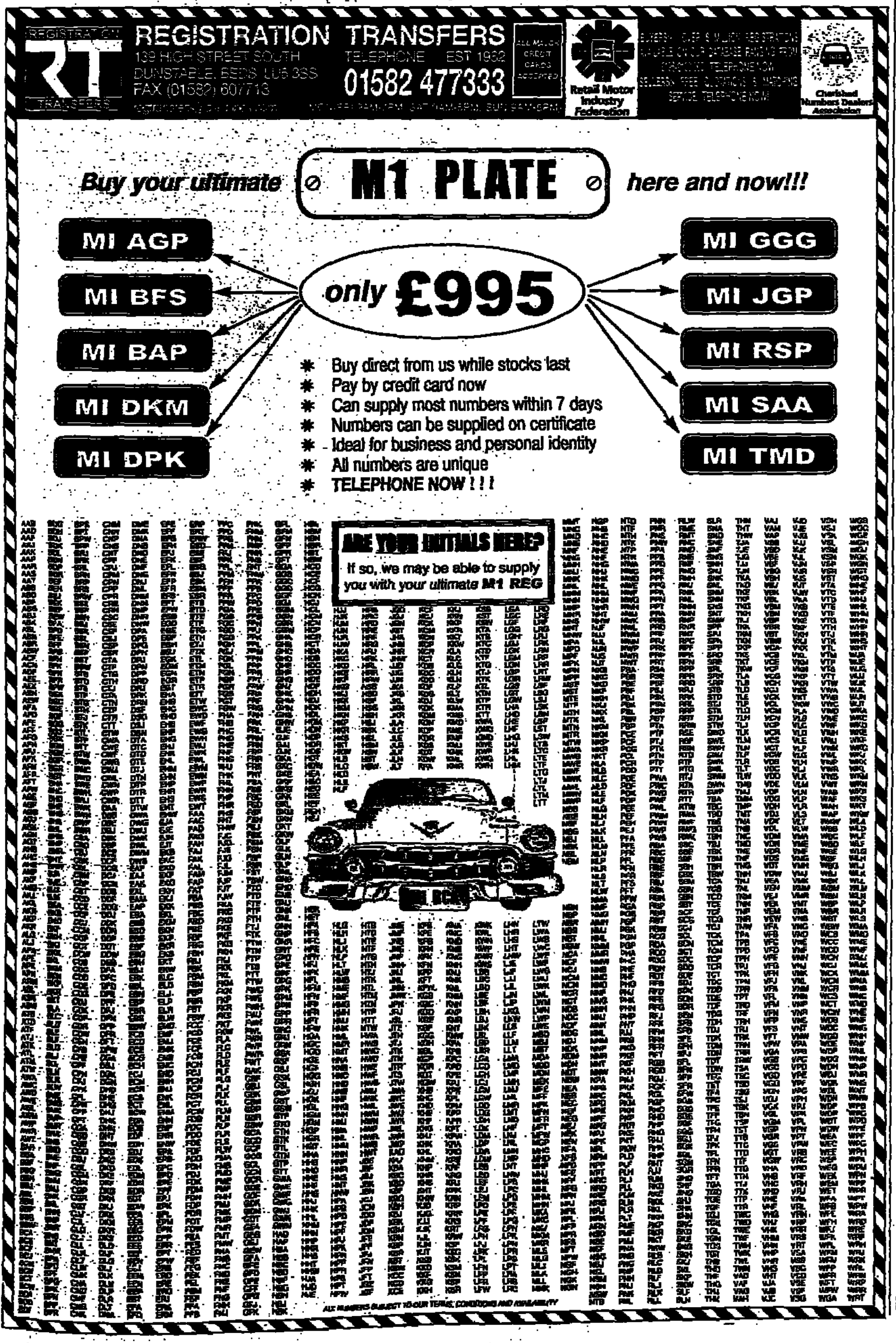
Finally, at Valdai, about halfway to Moscow, the car and its crew could go no further. "During the day there *slowly trickled into that village* other disappointed and bro*ken drivers and mechanics*, until, in the station bar on the *lonely railway, there was* formed the Automobile Club *de Valdai*, with Charles Jarrott as president."

When Jarrott and Bray decanted from the slow night *train in Moscow*, they found that Victor Hemery had won the race at an average of over 51mph in a Grand Prix Benz and only ten out of 29 starters had finished that "veritable test to destruction" — including H.R. Pope's Itala with its Russian springs.



Champoiseau's 30hp CGV came second, finishing the race without suffering a breakdown, though it arrived 2hr 40min after the leader

Russian peasant spectators await the race — the event attracted massive interest



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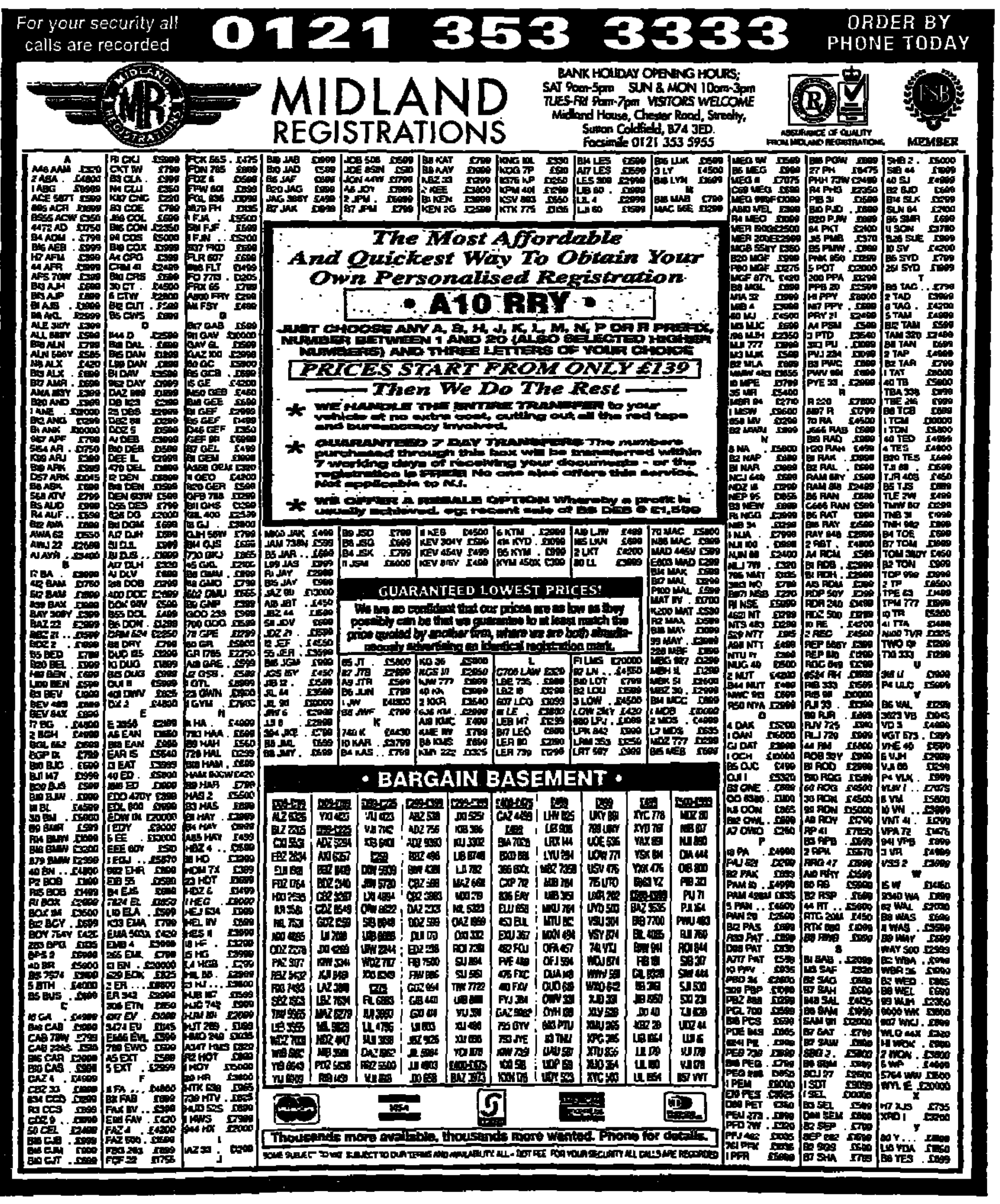

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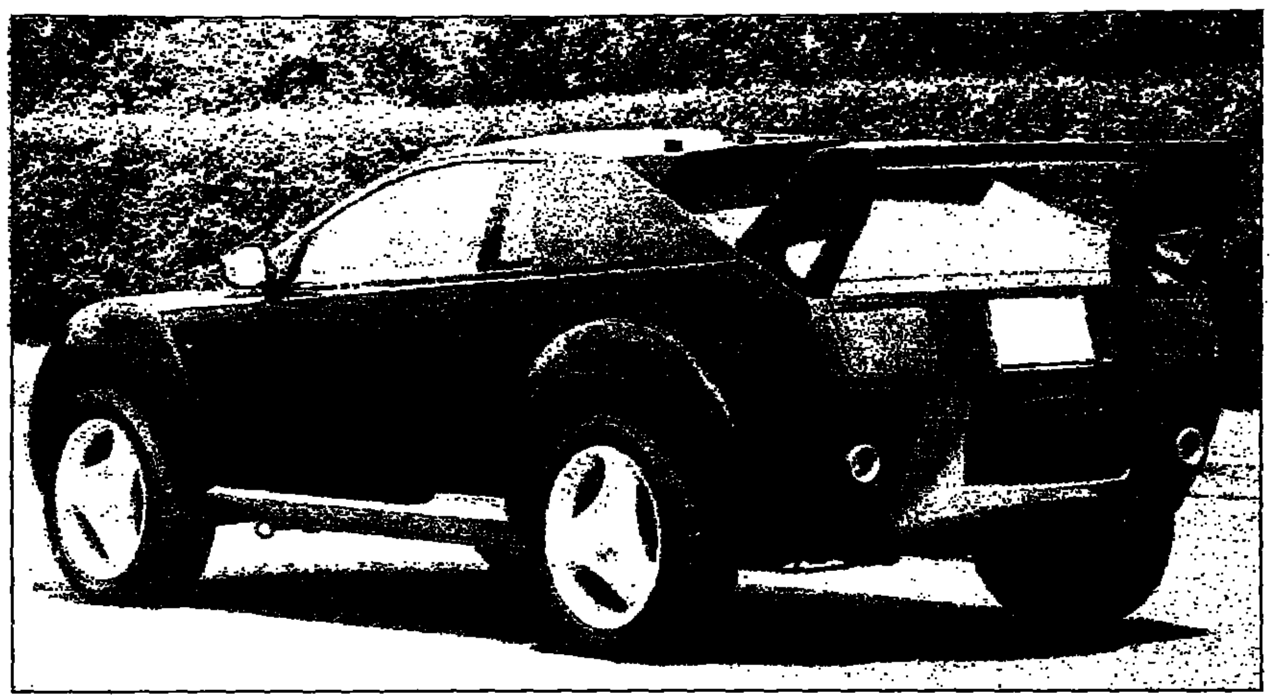
SORRY THE LAKE DISTRICT IS FULL

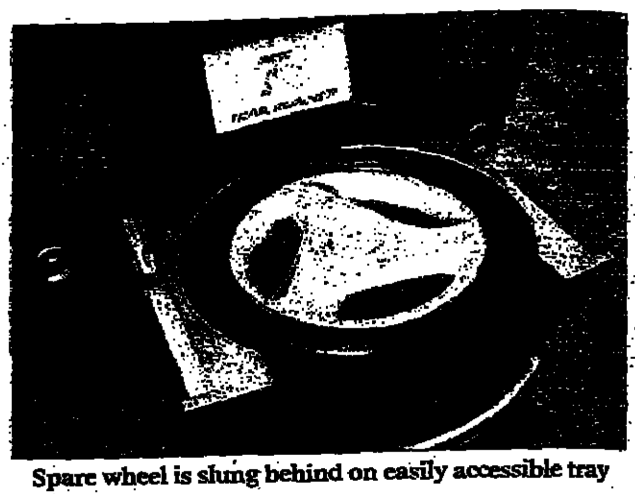
IT'S ALWAYS NOSE TO TAIL ON A BANK HOLIDAY

Nissan attempts a coupé de grass

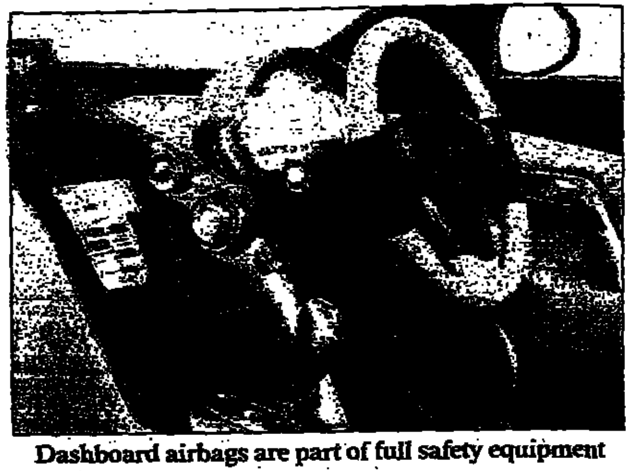
Can a sleek roadburner make it as an off-road star too, **Vaughan Freeman** asks



Slice the top off a coupé, stick it on a 4x4 chassis, add a spoiler and you have the radical Trailrunner concept



Spare wheel is slung behind on easily accessible tray



Dashboard airbags are part of full safety equipment

Seats fit the body in true sportster fashion, to hold occupants through fast corners

Slice a sleek sports coupè horizontally from nose to tail, weld the top half to the chassis of a burly 4x4 off-roader and the result would look like something like the Nissan Trailrunner, a cross-bred mutt that matches race-track performance to the mountain-climbing capabilities of a goat.

The thought of going up grassy tracks at more than 100mph or around a circuit at 150mph in a car shod with knobbly off-road tyres might seem unattractive, but that has not deterred Nissan from producing a car able to do both.

The car was dreamt up at Nissan's Japanese design studios and, while the company says it is only a motorshow concept, executives will no doubt be watching reaction with great interest to see if it exposes a new motoring niche.

Few four-wheel-drive cars need a genuine spoiler at the back, but with a top speed of 150mph rough-terrain capabilities, Nissan clearly believes the spoiler is a necessity on the Trailrunner.

The idea for the car, to be unveiled next month at the Frankfurt motor show, is to mix the thrills of a sports coupe with the adventurous spirit of a true four-wheel-drive.

To ensure that the Trailrunner really can punch its weight through mud and gravel, it features good ground clearance, while the wheels are pushed out to the corners — creating short overhangs front and rear which enable it to tackle dips and ditches more easily.

This is no tractor though. The wheelarches bulge with intent, the rear spoiler keeps the car on the road at high speed, and the interior, far from sharing the often spartan look of some 4x4s, looks more like a top-range sportster.

The purposeful black and silver of the exterior is relieved by the light and colourful interior, which mixes dazzling yellow with silver and light grey. The seats are sculpted to fit the body in true sportster fashion, to hold driver and passenger firmly in place through fast corners.

Adrian Atkinson, Nissan's spokesman in Britain, says: "The car has every available gizmo fitted to it. This is a brand new design, a completely new concept, although the sports utility vehicle (SUV) sector in Japan and in America is very important and this car fits within that market. The idea of the car is to expand the boundaries by combining coupè performance with a vehicle that can climb mountains — so that you can go up them very quickly and come back down even faster. It's great fun, it looks stunning and the interior is very ergonomic."

Technology has been crammed into the car: safety is a primary concern with dual dashboard airbags for both occupants as well as side airbags with added head protection, anti-lock brakes with brake assist to ensure full braking in an emergency, and a high energy absorbing bodywork.

For motorists able to get lost on the M25 as easily as on a cross-country ramble, the Trailrunner keeps itself on track with Birdview, a satellite-linked navigation system that gives 3D screen displays. An emergency call system automatically dials for help in the event of accident.

The spare wheel is slung beneath the car's rear, mounted on a hinged tray. A press of a button on the dashboard and the tray drops down to reveal the spare wheel ready for use.

The Trailrunner gives Nissan the chance to show off its all-new 2-litre engine for the first time. This uses the variable valve lift and timing system to maximise power, providing 190bhp at 6,000rpm. What makes the car so fast though is its extreme lightness, thanks to the use of featherweight materials. It weighs only 1,280 kilos, about the same as Nissan's Almera hatchback.

Power is delivered through a variable transmission which works both as a full automatic, but also as a six-speed manual. Maximum grip in all road and weather conditions is ensured with a computer that instantly detects which wheel needs most power delivered to it, so that whether the road surface is dry tarmac, ice or gravel, all four-wheels deliver as much power as possible without the wheels spinning.

TRAILRUNNER

Engine: 2-litre giving 190bhp, dual gearbox (automatic or six-speed manual) through four-wheel drive.

Performance: 150mph on road, all-terrain capability.

Equipment: satellite navigation, front and side airbags, anti-lock brakes with electronic brake assist for maximum stopping. Unique electronic card payment system to speed passage through motorway barriers on toll roads of the future.

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